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Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Report on the second session (12-23 May 2003)

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Note

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Contents

Chapter		*Page*
I.	Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention	1
	A. Draft decisions recommended by the Forum for adoption by the Council	1
	I. Workshop on the collection of data concerning indigenous peoples	1
	II. High-level segment of the substantive session of 2006 of the Economic and Social Council	1
	III. Participation of members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council	1
	IV. Bureau of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues	2
	V. Venue and dates for the third session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues	2
	VI. Provisional agenda and documentation for the third session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues	2
	VII. Proposal for a second international decade of the world's indigenous peoples	3
	B. Matters brought to the attention of the Council	3
	1. Indigenous children and youth	3
	2. Economic and social development	6
	3. Environment	10
	4. Health	13
	5. Human rights	16
	6. Culture	17
	7. Education	18
	8. Methods of work of the Forum with the United Nations system	20
	9. Future of the work of the Forum	21
II.	Introduction	23
III.	Theme of the session: "Indigenous children and youth"	24
IV.	Methods of work of the Forum with the United Nations system	25
V.	Mandated areas	26
VI.	Future work of the Forum	33
VII.	Provisional agenda for the third session of the Forum	34
VIII.	Adoption of the report of the Forum on its second session	35

IX. Organization of the session 36

Annexes

I. Attendance 38

II. Documentation 42

Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft decisions recommended by the Forum for adoption by the Council

1. The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I
Workshop on the collection of data concerning indigenous peoples

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Authorizes the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat to convene, as an initial step, a three-day workshop on the collection of data concerning indigenous peoples, with the participation of three members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; experts from United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, including both statistics experts and focal points on indigenous issues; the secretariat of the Forum; experts from indigenous peoples organizations with expertise related to the collection of data concerning indigenous peoples; two academic experts in the field; and interested States;

(b) Authorizes the provision of all necessary conference facilities for the workshop;

(c) Decides that the workshop will produce a report containing recommendations for consideration by the Forum at its third session, in 2004.

Draft decision II
High-level segment of the substantive session of 2006 of the Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council, taking into account that in 2006 five years will have been completed since the first session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and given the increasing importance of indigenous issues at the international level, decides to devote the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2006 to indigenous issues and to invite the Chairperson of the Forum to participate.

Draft decision III
Participation of members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council, taking into account the importance for the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to be represented, by its Chairperson or designated members, at various meetings of relevance to its mandate throughout the year, decides to confirm such representation as one of the methods of work of the Forum, and further requests that all subsidiary bodies of the Council welcome the Forum and its members by issuing open invitations to Forum members to attend all relevant meetings, conferences and seminars.

Draft decision IV
Bureau of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

The Economic and Social Council, having taken note that the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues considered it useful to designate six members for its Bureau at its first and second sessions, confirms that emerging practice as a method of work of the Forum.

Draft decision V
Venue and dates for the third session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

The Economic and Social Council decides that the third session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 10 to 21 May 2004.

Draft decision VI
Provisional agenda and documentation for the third session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

The Economic and Social Council approves the provisional agenda and documentation for the third session set out below.

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Substantive theme: "Indigenous women".

   Documentation

   Note by the Secretariat
4. Mandated areas:
   (a) Economic and social development;
   (b) Environment;
   (c) Health;
   (d) Human rights;
   (e) Culture;
   (f) Education.

   Documentation

   Note by the Secretariat
5. Future work of the Forum.
6. Draft agenda for the fourth session of the Forum.
7. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its third session.

Draft decision VII
Proposal for a second international decade of the world's indigenous peoples

The Economic and Social Council recommends to the General Assembly that it declare a second international decade of the world's indigenous peoples after the conclusion of the current International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples in 2004.

B. Matters brought to the attention of the Council

2. The Forum has identified the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action set out below and, through the Council, recommends that States, United Nations system and intergovernmental organizations, indigenous peoples, the private sector and non-governmental organizations assist in their realization.

3. It is the understanding of the Secretariat that the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action to be carried out by the United Nations as set out below will be implemented to the extent that resources from the regular budget and extrabudgetary resources are available.

1. Indigenous children and youth

4. As stated in its report on its first session,[1] the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues decided to make indigenous children and youth a focal point of its work in the years to come. The Forum reconfirms its commitment to do so, and acknowledges the efforts made by organizations representing indigenous peoples, United Nations agencies and States in the past year to tackle the urgent needs of the young generation, including the decision of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to declare indigenous children as the subject for its theme day, to be held in September 2003.

5. Recognizing the progress made, and building on the recommendations made in its report on its first session, the Forum provides the following advice and recommendations:

(a) Encourages United Nations bodies whose activities have an impact on indigenous children and youth, including, but not limited to, the World Health Organization (WHO), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), and the Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat, to report regularly to the Forum. The reports should contain detailed information on and assess the progress made within programmes directed at, affecting and relating to indigenous adolescents.

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 23* (E/2002/43/Rev.1), chap. I, sect. B, para. 31.

(b) Reiterates its recommendation that the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), as the United Nations nodal agency on children:

- Present a comprehensive report to the Forum on an annual basis, including budgetary allocations and an assessment of their impact, including details of all its initiatives undertaken in collaboration with other specialized bodies of the United Nations system relating to indigenous children and those undertaken at the international or regional levels, as well as country initiatives, where applicable;
- Provide information from the multi-indicator cluster survey being globally undertaken by UNICEF, disaggregating data on the antenatal health, birth, registration, immunization and early childhood development of indigenous children.

6. The Forum welcomes the participation of the Chairperson of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in the high-level panel and dialogue on indigenous children and youth held during its second session, and expresses the hope that that will lead to enhanced monitoring and promotion of the rights of indigenous children at the national and international levels. The Forum recommends that the Chairman of the Committee inform the next meeting of the Chairpersons of the human rights treaty bodies of the results of the high-level panel and dialogue. The Forum recommends that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights transmit the results of the discussion of the Committee to the Forum at its third session.

7. The Forum recommends that the Inter-Agency Support Group discuss how to promote the cross-cutting issue of children and youth.

8. The Forum notes that in order for it and the United Nations system to review the situation of indigenous children and youth, there is a need for country-specific situation analyses. Given UNICEF's unique and long experience and expertise in that area, the Forum invites UNICEF to initiate such situation analyses on indigenous children by field offices in countries with indigenous communities. The Forum also invites UNICEF to transmit such situation analyses to the Forum.

9. The Forum is deeply concerned that particular problems and discrimination are faced by indigenous children and youth, including in the areas of education, health, culture, extreme poverty, mortality, incarceration, labour and other relevant areas. The Forum notes the need for new indicators to be developed by the United Nations that will specifically target those problems, and in that regard invites UNICEF to develop such new indicators and share them with other entities of the United Nations system, especially UNESCO.

10. The Forum welcomes the new initiatives undertaken by UNICEF with regard to indigenous children, in particular the ongoing development of a digest on the indigenous child, as well as a number of case studies aimed at understanding development programming to fulfil the rights of indigenous children. The Forum requests UNICEF to make the digest and the results of those studies available to the Forum at its third session.

11. The Forum recommends that UNICEF, in cooperation with the ILO, UNESCO and UNHCR, report to the Forum at its fourth session on ways that the United Nations system can assist in capacity-building in that area.

12. The Forum welcomes the inclusion in the 2003 Ibero-American Summit of a focus on indigenous children, and recommends that UNICEF report to the Forum on the results of the Summit in that area, and to indicate how lessons can be learned and policy approaches improved concerning indigenous children in other parts of the world with indigenous peoples, specifically Asia and Africa.

13. The Forum urges UNICEF to develop its policy on and guidelines regarding indigenous peoples in time for the third session of the Forum.

14. The Forum recommends that UNICEF consider the appointment of a goodwill ambassador of indigenous children and youth to raise public awareness and that it urge all UNICEF ambassadors to pay attention to the specific problems of indigenous children and youth.

15. Aware of the massive exodus of indigenous youth to the alien environments of cities around the world and the discrimination, socio-economic hardships, weakened family networks and drug abuse, inter alia, affecting those youngsters and "street children", the Forum requests the World Bank, the ILO and UNICEF to conduct an in-depth comparative study of legal frameworks and social programmes addressing indigenous urban youth in selected countries. The study should assess key problems and best practices and should provide recommendations for the formulation of policies and strategies for future action.

16. The Forum recommends that the United Nations system, in particular UNICEF and WHO, in collaboration with Governments and in consultation with indigenous peoples' organizations, and with the participation and input from the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, address issues related to the trafficking and sexual exploitation of indigenous girls, and urges States to create programmes of rehabilitation.

17. The Forum invites the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, within the purview of his mandate, to pay special attention to and make recommendations concerning the rights of indigenous children.

18. In order to promote further knowledge of the Forum and the role of the United Nations among indigenous children and youth, the Forum decides to organize an indigenous youth art competition for the design of a logo for the Forum and to present the results to the Forum at its fourth session, in 2005, with the highest participation of indigenous children, including illiterate children.

19. The Forum, taking into account the large number of incarcerated indigenous children and youth and the need to assist them in reintegrating into society as soon as possible through socio-educational measures, recommends that the Economic and Social Council urge Governments to ensure greater protection and humane treatment of those children and youth while in prison and youth detention centres, and to provide them with socio-educational measures for their rehabilitation.

20. The Forum, taking into account that indigenous children, youth and women are more vulnerable and are often physically and psychologically mistreated, and that children represent the future of indigenous peoples, recommends that the Council support the declaration of an international day or an international year of the

indigenous child, to be celebrated with awareness-raising activities to honour the cultural identity of indigenous peoples.

21. The Forum recommends that UNICEF, UNESCO, WHO, the ILO, UNIFEM, UNDP, UNFPA and other United Nations bodies, in collaboration with Governments and in close coordination with indigenous peoples, prepare a Latin American conference of indigenous children and youth in 2004, taking into account the experience of the Subregional Conference of Indigenous Youth and Children, held in Quito in 2001.

22. The Forum recommends that both States and indigenous peoples' organizations consider the inclusion of youth representatives in their delegations attending the annual session of the Forum.

23. The Forum recommends that in staffing the secretariat of the Forum, due consideration be given to qualified indigenous youth applicants.

24. The Forum recommends that the Committee on the Rights of the Child, at its special discussion day on the indigenous child, to be held on 19 September 2003, in addition to considering reports from States parties, pay special attention to issues related to safeguarding the integrity of indigenous families.

25. The Forum, deeply concerned about the harmful and widespread impact of armed conflict on indigenous children, recommends that the Committee on the Rights of the Child make recommendations on the situation of the human rights of indigenous children involved in armed conflict, taking into account the principles and norms contained in the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict.

2. Economic and social development

26. The Forum recommends that the agencies and bodies of the United Nations, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the African Development Bank and the International Monetary Fund rethink the concept of development, with the full participation of indigenous peoples in development processes, taking into account the rights of indigenous peoples and the practices of their traditional knowledge.

27. The Forum welcomes UNDP's contribution to the Forum and its support of the establishment of a working group on free, prior and informed consent and of the initiative to develop a land rights policy. The Forum also recognizes the key role UNDP can play in data collection and disaggregation through its national human development reports and the Millennium Development Goals reports. The Forum also recognizes that the Goals can provide an overall framework for furthering indigenous peoples' development.

28. The Forum expresses concern over development practices that do not take into account the particular characteristics of indigenous communities as groups, with their distinct cultural identities and often their own systems of representation, thus significantly undermining meaningful ways of participation in the assessment, preparation, execution and evaluation of development programmes of their concern.

29. The Forum, taking into account that States recognized the vital role of indigenous peoples in sustainable development at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, calls upon the United Nations

system, other intergovernmental organizations and Governments to establish processes of meaningful participation and partnership with indigenous communities in those processes, including within the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the poverty reduction strategy papers of the World Bank. The Forum recommends, through the Economic and Social Council, that all States, organs and agencies of the United Nations take into account the Kimberley Declaration adopted by the Summit of Indigenous Peoples on Sustainable Development, held in the territory of the Khoi-San People from 20 to 23 August 2002, as well as the plan of implementation of indigenous peoples on sustainable development, when States begin to implement the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development. The Permanent Forum, through the Economic and Social Council, invites United Nations agencies, bodies, funds and programmes to identify areas of work within their mandates for collaborative implementation with indigenous peoples' Kimberly proposals, taking into account the report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its eleventh session and the multi-year programme of work of the Commission, for the further implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation as well as the fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals.

30. The Forum takes note of the adoption by the Commission on Sustainable Development of a substantive agenda for the next several years, and decides to prepare inputs to the Commission according to the calendar adopted by the Commission. In preparation for the first cluster for 2004-2005 on water, sanitation and human settlements, the Forum recommends that its secretariat prepare, without financial implications, a brief draft position paper and to submit it to the Forum at its third session.

31. Noting that the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 2003, will devote its high-level segment to rural development, the Forum recommends that the Council, in formulating its conclusions, take into account the unique cultural identities of indigenous peoples and the necessity for their meaningful participation in the planning, implementation and evaluation of programmes dealing with rural development.

32. The Forum notes that indigenous peoples are increasingly confronted with issues and problems related to more urban characteristics, such as access to adequate housing, services and infrastructure in human settlements. It therefore invites Governments and local authorities to adopt policies and take necessary measures to meet the changing needs of indigenous peoples within the global process of the urban/rural dynamics and continuum. The Forum also recommends that United Nations agencies, funds and programmes increase their focus on this global trend and take actions in their respective areas of work so as to positively affect indigenous peoples. It recommends that the United Nations system, especially the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, submit a report on policies and programmes in this area to the Forum, and to participate in a dialogue with the Forum at its third session.

International financial institutions

33. The Forum, taking into account the meetings between the World Bank and indigenous peoples held during its second session on the guidelines and operative policies and procedural norms of the Bank, recommends that the Bank:

(a) Continue to address issues currently outstanding, including Bank implementation of international customary laws and standards, in particular human rights instruments, full recognition of customary land and resource rights of indigenous peoples, recognition of the right of free, prior informed consent of indigenous peoples regarding development projects that affect them, and prohibition of the involuntary resettlement of indigenous peoples;

(b) Compile examples of best practices in development projects with indigenous peoples and include those best practices in future policies;

(c) Discuss the issues of forced relocation and land rights;

(d) Facilitate and support the exchange of knowledge and information between indigenous organizations;

(e) Facilitate and support the exchange of information on the implementation of policies on indigenous peoples by international financial institutions, such as the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the African Development Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

34. The Forum welcomes the new initiative of the Bank entitled "Grants facility for indigenous peoples", and urges the Bank to organize consultations with indigenous peoples' organizations to further the process.

35. The Forum recommends that the International Labour Organization inform the Forum at its third session of the impact of the major ILO technical cooperation programmes, in particular the International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour, and programmes under the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights.

36. The Forum renews the recommendation made at its first session on the need to create a three-year working group on free, prior informed consent and participatory research guidelines, under the aegis of the Forum, with funding from the regular budget that includes a focus on how the guidelines relate to the protection of indigenous knowledge and natural resources.

37. The Forum recommends that a meeting of international financial institutions be convened, with the participation of the Forum, to consider issues related to their policies, procedures and relationships concerning indigenous peoples, and that a report of the meeting be prepared for consideration at the third session of the Forum.

38. The Forum recommends that the United Nations system, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank and the International Monetary Fund formulate development policies for indigenous peoples that affirm their identity and include the participation of indigenous citizens so as to highlight and initiate programmes and projects based on the perspective of the indigenous way of life.

39. Considering the effects of globalization and the need for indigenous peoples to participate in the global economy to promote their development, the Forum recommends that the Economic and Social Council invite the World Trade Organization to participate in its third session.

40. The Forum recommends that a world conference on indigenous peoples in the information society be organized on the occasion of the World Summit on the Information Society (10-12 December 2003), in close cooperation with interested Governments and NGOs. It is recommended that the assistance of the secretariat of

the Summit be provided for the organization of such an event. The Forum recommends that a written report on indigenous peoples in the information society be addressed by the focal point of the Forum, Mr. Matias, to the preparatory committee for the Summit before 31 August 2003.

41. The Forum recommends inviting the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and other regional commissions to present a report of their activities concerning the situation of indigenous peoples and poverty in Latin America.

42. The Forum recommends to States and the United Nations system the implementation of projects of agriculture, fishing, forestry, and arts and crafts production to diversify productive activities and family income sources and to contribute to reducing, according to their own will, the levels of internal and external migration of indigenous peoples, and to providing capacity-building in those areas, by:

(a) Promoting the knowledge, application and dissemination of appropriate technologies and indigenous peoples' local products with certificates of origin to activate product activities, as well as the use, management and conservation of natural resources;

(b) Strengthening the capacities and potential of local human resources to train agricultural, fishery and forestry promoters that respond efficiently to the necessities of the families beneficiaries;

(c) Strengthening the institutional and entrepreneurial capacity of organizations of indigenous peoples to design operative and effective strategies so as to achieve sustainable development for the indigenous peoples of the world.

43. The Forum recommends to Governments the design and implementation of mechanisms for resolving the problems related to land tenure and access to credits, with quality and efficiency and without affecting indigenous peoples.

44. The Forum recommends that States where indigenous peoples live formulate and implement public policies with gender and ethnic considerations, taking into account the multicultural and multi-ethnic composition of their populations.

45. The Forum reiterates its recommendation that the Economic and Social Council approve the creation, under the auspices of the Forum, of a three-year working group on free, prior informed consent and participatory research guidelines, with the participation of stakeholders concerned, namely Governments, indigenous peoples' organizations, corporations and States and the United Nations system, with combined funding provided partly by the regular budget and partly through the Voluntary Fund, the World Bank and corporations, that includes a focus on how free, prior informed consent and participatory research guidelines relate to economic, social and environmental projects and the protection of indigenous knowledge and natural resources.

3. Environment

Recommendation 1
Progress of work in the area of environmental development

46. The Forum recommends that the Secretary-General, through the Economic and Social Council, prepare a report on the implementation of chapter 26 of Agenda 21 and other relevant chapters, such as chapter 36 and 15, that focus on how the Commission on Sustainable Development, in conjunction with secretariats of other environmental bodies (Convention on Biological Diversity, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, United Nations Environment Programme, Global Environment Facility (GEF), United Nations Forum on Forests, UNDP, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) etc.) are implementing those chapters for indigenous peoples in their work, and that the report be submitted to the Forum at its third session.

Recommendation 2
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

47. The Forum recommends that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change consider the possible establishment of an ad hoc open-ended intersessional working group on indigenous peoples and local communities and climate change, whose objectives would be to study and propose timely, effective and adequate solutions to respond to the urgent situations caused by climate change that indigenous peoples and local communities face. The Forum furthermore recommends that the Convention consider providing necessary funding support to Forum members and indigenous peoples to guarantee their participation and to strengthen their participation.

Recommendation 3
World water

48. With regard to the environmental issue of water, the Forum, recognizing the indigenous peoples' Kyoto water declaration made at the World Water Forum, held in Kyoto, Japan, in March 2003, requests that the Commission on Sustainable Development and other relevant United Nations bodies (i.e., UNEP, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, UNDP) consider the declaration in their discussions on this theme in 2004.

Recommendation 4
Waste, chemicals and pollution

49. The Forum recommends that the United Nations system urge all States to ratify the Kyoto Protocol, the Bio-Safety Protocol, the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (the Conference of Parties to the Stockholm Convention should establish mechanisms for indigenous peoples to maintain an active presence at its meeting), the Rotterdam Convention on Hazardous Chemicals, the Basel Convention on the Control of the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal and its 1995 prohibition on the export of hazardous waste from the countries of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development to non-member countries, and 1996 Protocol to the London Convention on marine waste deposits etc.

50. The Forum recommends that the United Nations Environment Programme report on the feasibility of developing mechanisms for indigenous peoples to participate in the persistent organic pollutants global monitoring programme's evaluation process under the Stockholm Convention. The Forum also welcomes the key findings of the UNEP global mercury assessment, and recommends that the Economic and Social Council recommend that UNEP take immediate action on mercury contamination and work towards initiating a global legally binding instrument and other measures at the next UNEP Governing Council meeting of environmental ministers, to be held in the Republic of Korea in 2005.

Recommendation 5
Mining and mineral extraction

51. The Forum recommends that the United Nations system, particularly the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and UNEP, taking note of the World Bank's extractive industries review, organize a workshop on resource extraction and indigenous peoples to further discuss such issues as corporate accountability and the rehabilitation of mined out areas, polluted water bodies and compensation of adversely affected communities, sustainable development and land rights, with a view to developing a mechanism to address the issues.

Recommendation 6
Forests, parks and protected areas

52. The operational policy of the World Bank regarding forests is under review. The Forum recommends to the Bank that it take into account the recommendations made by indigenous peoples and calls for the involvements of Forum members in the Bank's process of review and revision.

53. The Forum notes the preparation of the World Congress on Protected Areas, to be held in Durban, South Africa, in September 2003, which Forum members consider to be an important meeting calling for their attention and action. The Forum recommends that all laws, policies or work programmes on forests and protected areas guarantee, ensure and respect various aspects of indigenous peoples' lives, such as their spiritual and cultural lives, lands and territorial rights, including sacred sites, needs and benefits, and recognize their rights of access to and control over the management of forests.

Recommendation 7
World Trade Organization

54. The Forum invites the secretariat of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to its third session for an exchange of views on important issues of common interest.

Recommendation 8
Environmental impact assessment and cultural diversity

55. The Forum recommends that United Nations bodies, in particular the Convention on Biological Diversity, in coordination with the World Bank, UNDP, FAO and IFAD, and UNEP, organize a workshop on protecting sacred places and ceremonial sites of indigenous peoples with a view to identifying protective

mechanisms and instituting a legal framework that make cultural, environmental and social impact assessments studies mandatory and ensure the environmental accountability of economic, social and environmental projects that are proposed to be conducted on sacred sites and on lands, territories and waters traditionally occupied or used by indigenous peoples.

56. Taking into account decision 22/16 of the Governing Council of UNEP, the Forum recommends that UNEP and relevant United Nations agencies and programmes hold consultations at the regional and national levels with indigenous peoples to examine this issue and prepare recommendations on possible further strengthening of the understanding of the link between environment and cultural diversity.

Recommendation 9
Convention on Biological Diversity

57. The Forum recommends the establishment of an international ethical code on bio-prospecting in order to avoid bio-piracy and ensure the respect for indigenous cultural and intellectual heritage. Under the framework of the Convention, a mechanism should be established for the repatriation and devolution of genetic materials collections to indigenous peoples. The Forum recommends to the Convention secretariat that the global taxonomy initiative incorporate an ethical principles and social framework for the protection of indigenous peoples' rights to their lands, traditional knowledge and resources before its implementation.

Recommendation 10
World Intellectual Property Organization

58. The Forum, noting the future mandate of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore to be considered by the Committee at its session to be held in July 2003, expresses the wish that the mandate of the Committee should have as its clear objective the continued development of mechanisms, systems and tools that adequately protect the genetic resources, traditional knowledge and expressions of culture of indigenous peoples at the national, regional and international levels. The Forum affirms its willingness to contribute its expertise and experience to the work of the Committee and to play a consultative role in assisting mechanisms that may be established by member States of WIPO, and urges the Committee to assist two Forum members in participating systematically and effectively in the process by establishing a special fund.

59. The Forum recommends that WIPO undertake a study, in collaboration with Forum members, on the use of indigenous knowledge relating to medicinal plants and resources, the commercialization of such knowledge and how indigenous communities are benefiting from such commercialization.

Recommendation 11
Funding for indigenous peoples' projects

60. The Forum recommends that all United Nations environmental bodies, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, UNEP, GEF, the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme, make the necessary efforts to mobilize resources for projects by indigenous peoples, and provide financial support to

strengthen the international indigenous peoples Forum on biodiversity and the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Recommendation 12
Participation of indigenous peoples

61. The Forum recommends to the Economic and Social Council that the United Nations system guarantee the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples in appropriate processes and environmental conventions, such as those on desertification, wetlands and climate change.

Recommendation 13
High-level panel on the participation of civil society

62. Recognizing the emerging role of civil society and indigenous peoples in the search for creative solutions as a means of contributing to formulating, developing and implementing policies and programmes of the United Nations system, the Forum welcomes the initiative of the Secretary-General to create a high-level panel to prepare a series of recommendations on the participation of civil society in the work of the United Nations system. The Forum recommends that the Secretary-General ask the high-level panel to hold consultations and to take into account the recommendations of the Forum on the improvement of indigenous peoples' participation in and contributions to the work of the United Nations system.

4. Health

63. The Forum reiterates the recommendations made in its report on its first session and:

(a) Urges the World Health Organization (WHO), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and all United Nations bodies and agencies involved in programmes relating to health to incorporate indigenous healers and cultural perspectives on health and illness into their policies, guidelines and programmes, and to undertake regional consultations with indigenous peoples on these issues, in order to mainstream indigenous health issues into the United Nations system;

(b) Urges the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to undertake a study on the relationship between food security, subsistence agricultural practices and indigenous health and illness.

64. The Forum recommends that WHO, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, and the United Nations Population Fund convene a workshop on indigenous health, with the goal of addressing a system-wide strategy to address the health needs of indigenous peoples and setting out the terms of reference for a study on the health needs of indigenous peoples, with particular emphasis on indigenous children and women including infant mortality, reproductive rights, sterilization, domestic abuse and addiction and the collection of data relating to these issues. The Forum recommends that its focal point and a representative of the Indigenous Peoples' Caucus on Health be invited to attend and be provided the means to participate.

65. The Forum urges the Global Alliance For Vaccination Initiatives (GAVI) to sponsor a workshop and also urges UNDP to co-sponsor a workshop to expand global programmes for immunization and vaccination of indigenous women and

children and to assess the need for safety protocols relating thereto. The Permanent Forum recommends that its focal point in health and a representative of the Indigenous Peoples' Caucus on Health be invited to attend and be provided the means to participate.

66. The Forum recommends that UNICEF prepare a report on indigenous children who have limited or no access to direct health-care services, including recommendations to improve health-care access.

New recommendations

General

67. The Forum urges UNICEF, the lead United Nations agency on children, to adopt a policy relating to indigenous children and to designate an agency focal point on indigenous children. The Permanent Forum urges UNICEF to include questions on ethnicity, cultural and tribal affiliation and language in its Demographic and Health and Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys, in order to obtain disaggregated data on the goals set forth at the World Summit for Children and the health needs of indigenous children.

68. The Forum urges WHO, in implementing the outlined global strategy on health of marginalized ethnic populations, to gather data and extend programme services to indigenous peoples based on criteria relating to ethnicity, cultural or tribal affiliation and language.

69. The Forum urges WHO to engage in a global consultation with indigenous peoples and others on its participatory research guidelines and seek the advice of the Permanent Forum on the guidelines.

70. The Forum urges UNICEF, UNDP, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the Global Fund for AIDS to gather and disaggregate data on indigenous infants, children and mothers based on criterion relating to ethnicity, cultural and tribal affiliation and language.

Environment/health/persistent organic pollutants

71. The Forum recommends that the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme urge States to ratify the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and adopt the recommendations of the Conference of the Parties relating to its implementation.

72. The Forum invites UNDP and the Statistical Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to present a report at the 2004 session of the Forum, setting forth the progress made to date on the Millennium Development Goals, with special focus on alleviating poverty and its affects on indigenous peoples and communities.

73. The Forum recommends that the Committee on the Rights of the Child, as the treaty monitoring body for the Convention on the Rights of the Child, review the compliance of States Parties with article 24, which recognized the basic right of all children to "the provision of adequate and nutritional foods and clean drinking water, taking into consideration the dangers and risks of environmental pollution",

with particular attention to its impact on traditional subsistence foods, and that the Committee address those issues during the day of general discussion on the indigenous child in September 2003.

74. The Forum recommends that the Special Rapporteur on toxic waste, with the participation of the Committee on the Rights on the Child, UNEP and WHO, conduct a workshop on the impacts of persistent organic pollutants and pesticides on indigenous peoples, including examining the promotion and use of pesticides by multinational corporations.

HIV/AIDS

75. The Forum recommends that the Global Fund and UNAIDS participate in the Inter-Agency Support Group and that the Fund and UNAIDS present a report on the impact of their programmes and activities on indigenous peoples and communities to the Permanent Forum at its 2004 session, with specific focus on preventative programmes and activities impacting children and infants.

76. The Forum recommends that the Global Fund review their funding strategy in order to include access by indigenous non-governmental organizations and health providers for community-based culturally appropriate HIV/AIDS programmes.

Other specific issues

77. The Forum recommends that the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences pay special attention to the impact of violence against indigenous women, including war-related violence and domestic violence.

78. The Forum recommends that the Special Rapporteur on the right to health pay special attention in his work to the right to health as contained in treaties between indigenous peoples and States.

79. The Forum recommends that the United Nations agencies supporting and promoting the Healthy Environments for Children Alliance, namely WHO, UNICEF, UNEP and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UN-HABITAT), include a particular focus on indigenous children and youth.

80. The Forum urges States to undertake and promote the expansion of their national health systems in order to provide holistic health programmes for indigenous children that incorporate preventive medical practices and family and community participation. States are urged to address the issues of malnutrition of indigenous children victimized by poverty by adopting special measures to ensure and protect the cultivation of traditional food crops.

81. The Forum recommends that the Working Group on Indigenous Populations undertake a study on genocidal and ethnocidal practices perpetrated on indigenous peoples, including programmes for sterilization of indigenous women and girls, the use of indigenous communities as subjects for nuclear testing or storage of radioactive waste and the testing of unapproved drugs on indigenous children and peoples.

82. The Forum recommends that WHO, in conjunction with indigenous health providers, undertake a study on the prevalence and causes of suicide among indigenous youth, and efforts being undertaken, including culturally based approaches, to address suicide prevention and the promotion of mental health and wellness.

5. Human rights

83. The Forum recommends that, under the aegis of the Forum, effective cooperation should be established and further developed between the Forum, the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and the special rapporteurs who address issues relating to indigenous peoples, with a view towards evaluating their activities, ensuring complementary efforts and avoiding duplication, in the light of resolution 2003/55 of the Commission on Human Rights.

84. The Forum wishes to express its appreciation to the Special Rapporteur on the situation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples for his participation at the second session of the Forum and for his important contribution thereto. The Forum invites the Special Rapporteur to participate annually at its sessions and to inform the Forum on his work in accordance with his mandate.

85. The Forum appreciates the preparation by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of the information note on the ways in which indigenous issues have been addressed in Charter-based mechanisms and treaty bodies. The Forum recommends that the Secretary-General prepare, in several stages, an analytical study on the subject. In the initial stage, the Forum recommends the Secretary-General prepare a study on the ways in which indigenous issues have been addressed in the consideration of reports of States parties submitted under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

86. The Forum underlines the importance for country-specific special rapporteurs, thematic special rapporteurs, experts and representatives of the Commission on Human Rights to pay special attention to the situation of indigenous peoples in their respective fields.

87. The Forum reiterates the recommendations contained in paragraphs 18 and 19 of the report on its first session:[2]

(a) The Forum calls upon States to adopt the draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples before the end of the Decade;

(b) The Forum encourages States to include representatives of indigenous peoples' organizations in their delegations to the informal intersessional meeting on the draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples.

88. On the basis of information received at its second session, the Forum expresses its deep concern about the reported atrocities committed against the Pygmy people in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Kuna people of Panama, and atrocities committed against indigenous peoples in other regions of the world. It urges the entire United Nations system as well as the appropriate bodies to take appropriate action.

89. The Forum welcomes and supports the decision of the Commission on Human Rights as contained in paragraph 11 of its resolution 2003/56 of 24 April 2003 to hold a seminar on the administration of justice.

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[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 23* (E/2002/43/Rev.1).

90. The Forum welcomes and supports Commission on Human Rights decision 2003/117 of 24 April 2003 to hold a seminar on treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements between indigenous peoples and States, as a follow-up to the United Nations treaty study final report.[3]

91. Following the results of the discussion under the special theme "Indigenous children and youth" and in the light of article 30 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Forum recommends that the Committee on the Rights of the Child request States parties to the Convention to include in their reports information pertaining to the situation of indigenous children under all relevant provisions of the Convention.

92. The Forum appreciates the information provided by the Council of Europe on the ways in which indigenous issues have been addressed in that organization. The Forum recommends that other appropriate regional intergovernmental organizations provide it with information on the ways in which indigenous issues have been addressed in their respective mechanisms for the protection of human rights and invites them to establish contacts with the Forum and to extend their experience with other regions.

93. The Forum reiterates the recommendations contained in paragraph 24 of its report on the first session,[2] namely, it recommends that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights organize activities with indigenous peoples in Africa and Asia with a view to:

(a) Providing international and regional human rights training for indigenous peoples;

(b) Encouraging dialogue between States, indigenous peoples and others on the concept of indigenous peoples in the context of the promotion and protection of cultural diversity;

(c) Inviting inter-agency consultation with States and indigenous peoples at the national and subregional levels and to report to the Forum at its third session.

94. The Forum calls upon the European Commission to establish further collaboration with it on indigenous issues.

6. Culture

95. The Forum recommends that States consider constitutional and other legal reform and educational reform to recognize and respect cultural, religious and linguistic diversity and spiritual practices, within the framework of international human rights standards, and to eliminate all forms of discrimination and segregation that has deepened historic inequalities.

96. The Forum recommends that the World Intellectual Property Organization Committee continue to cooperate, where relevant, with other organizations and agencies within the United Nations system, such as the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

[3] E/CN.4/Sub.2/1999/20.

97. The Forum welcomes and encourages the active involvement of representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities in the work of the WIPO Committee and in parallel consultations and workshops organized by WIPO, and calls for such involvement to be enhanced through, inter alia, the greater use in the work of WIPO of position papers, case studies and information materials reflecting community experiences and perspectives and the funding of the participation of representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities in sessions of the WIPO Committee.

98. The Forum recommends that Governments introduce indigenous languages in public administration in indigenous territories where feasible.

99. The Forum recommends that Governments and the United Nations system, through its country presences, support indigenous media and promote the engagement of indigenous youth in indigenous programmes.

100. The Forum recommends that the United Nations and Member States recognize the cultural rights of indigenous peoples which include the rights to organize oneself freely and to administer one's own cultural, sports, social and religious institutions. For this purpose, the Forum encourages the United Nations and the relevant specialized agencies to consider establishing an international centre for multicultural and multiracial studies.

101. The Forum recommends that the World Tourism Organization prepare an initial paper on the issue of tourism and indigenous peoples, taking into account the positive and negative impacts, with a view to preparing guidelines on tourism and indigenous peoples.

102. The Forum welcomes the initiative of UNESCO to draft a convention on intangible heritage and requests the participation, consultation and dialogue with indigenous peoples and with the Forum.

103. The Forum recommends that the Economic and Social Council, States and the United Nations system promote the co-administration of archaeological sites which are administered by States in order to contribute to the care, preservation and conservation of those sites and to facilitate processes of development of indigenous peoples.

104. The Forum recommends that the national commissions of UNESCO work closely with indigenous experts and representatives with expertise in education, science, culture and communication to increase the participation of indigenous peoples in the activities of UNESCO.

105. The Forum recommends that UNESCO bring together indigenous experts and specialists to constitute an international network which integrates the domains of culture, education, science and communication in order to forge a partnership between UNESCO and indigenous peoples.

7. Education

106. The Forum recommends that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations agencies and other relevant bodies provide more funds, through appropriate means, to help indigenous peoples for education, in particular, emphasizing the importance of bilingual and inter-cultural training for indigenous persons. Such funds should be used to facilitate the educational

exchanges between indigenous peoples and others in order to make contributions to the cultural diversity of the world, as well as to preserve indigenous peoples' cultural heritage.

107. The Forum recommends that concerned State Governments conduct workshops, training courses and other programmes for indigenous peoples, on a regular basis, to enhance their interest in the cultural diversity of the world and thus increase awareness about preserving distinct indigenous peoples' culture.

108. The Forum recalls its mandate to "prepare and disseminate information on indigenous issues",[4] and invites indigenous peoples' organizations to consider creative ways of educating and disseminating information on the Forum to indigenous peoples' organizations and communities, including through art, workshops, radio programmes, posters, indigenous journalism and other culturally appropriate media. To that end, the Forum recommends that the programmes, funds and agencies of the United Nations system allocate appropriate resources for this purpose, assist in the production of such materials, include indigenous professionals in the production of such materials and report to the Forum at its third session on the extent to which they have been able to incorporate these actions into their programmes of work. The Forum also recommends that the United Nations Development Fund for Women allocate funding for capacity-building in connection with the Forum and for special outreach to indigenous women. The Forum furthermore recommends that the United Nations Children's Fund allocate funding for capacity-building in connection with the Forum and for special outreach to indigenous children and youth.

109. The Forum recommends the creation and/or consolidation of academic institutions to train indigenous leaders of the world and urges public and private universities to develop curricula on indigenous peoples. The Forum furthermore exhorts the presidents of universities to promote the review of their teaching and research programmes with the objective of valuing and recognizing indigenous and inter-cultural education, and strengthening technical cooperation and the exchange of experience for the training of indigenous professionals.

110. The Forum recommends that the Economic and Social Council encourage States, specialized bodies and the United Nations system to consider creating international indigenous universities.

111. The Forum recommends that States reduce the rates of illiteracy, lack of schooling, truancy and dropouts and raise the rates of completed primary education through literacy campaigns and the design of indigenous, bilingual, inter-cultural educative and extramural models in the States where indigenous peoples live.

112. The Forum recommends that States rescue, foster and give publicity to the history and culture of indigenous peoples in the education systems of the world to strengthen their identity.

113. The Forum recommends that UNESCO hold a world forum on education and indigenous peoples with the participation of indigenous peoples that would contribute, inter alia, to enriching the indigenous education concepts and the pedagogic practices.

[4] See Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/22, para. 2 (c).

114. The Forum recommends that UNESCO invite indigenous experts and specialists to participate in its education forums, congresses, conferences and meetings to ensure the recognition and contribution of indigenous scientific and technological knowledge.

115. The Forum recommends that the Special Rapporteur on the right to education pay special attention in her work to the right to education as contained in treaties, agreements, and other constructive arrangements between indigenous peoples, Nations and States.

8. Methods of work of the Forum with the United Nations system

116. The Forum notes that there is a need for capacity-building in national and local government as well indigenous communities in the areas within the Forum's mandate, and recommends that various parts of the United Nations system, including the International Labour Organization and the secretariat of the Forum, cooperate to provide technical assistance in that regard at the request of Governments and indigenous communities.

117. The Forum expresses its satisfaction that the Inter-Agency Support Group has met since the first session of the Forum to organize its input to the second session, and expresses appreciation to the ILO and the World Bank for having convened the Group. The Forum requests the Group to extend its membership to other United Nations system entities so as to promote the largest possible participation of the system in the work programme of the Forum, and requests the secretariat of the Forum to provide substantive support to the rotating Chair of the Group. The Forum also expresses appreciation for the active participation of agency focal points in a constructive dialogue during its second session, and expresses the hope that focal points will continue to participate at its third session.

118. The Forum recognizes the efforts of the World Bank in the consultation process and the review of its policy on indigenous peoples. The members of the Forum request that the final draft policy be made available to them before its presentation to the Board of the World Bank. The members of the Forum express their great interest in reviewing the draft policy and making recommendations, as well as in meeting with the Board of Executive Directors of the World Bank.

119. The Forum recommends that the World Bank continue dialogue and direct consultation with indigenous peoples, and that a permanent dialogue be held among indigenous peoples, the World Bank and the Forum.

120. The Forum recommends strengthening the mechanisms for collaboration with United Nations agencies and Governments, and monitoring compliance with and the implementation of its recommendations made to United Nations agencies and Governments.

121. The Forum recommends that executive heads of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes that have not yet done so adopt policies on indigenous peoples and designate focal points for addressing indigenous issues relevant to each respective agency's mandate in order to facilitate the mainstreaming of indigenous issues within the United Nations system.

9. Future of the work of the Forum

Data collection

122. The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues takes account of the diversity of national experience with surveys, censuses and other data and information-collection systems as applied to indigenous peoples, and in view of the urgent need for disaggregated data on indigenous peoples within all of the mandated areas for developing and streamlining the policies and guidelines of the work of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, and also in view of the complexities of producing coherent data, reiterates the recommendation made at its first session to organize a workshop on the subject, and recommends that the Economic and Social Council adopt draft decision 1 contained in chapter I, section A, of the present report.

Voluntary Fund

123. The Forum expresses its satisfaction with the establishment by the General Assembly of the Voluntary Fund for the Permanent Forum and calls upon Governments, foundations and others to give generously to the Fund in order to promote the work of the Forum.

124. The Forum expresses its support for the work of the Board of Trustees and the Advisory Group of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations and the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples, urges Governments, non-governmental organizations and other private or public entities and individuals to contribute to the funds and supports the continuation of the activities of the Board of Trustees and Advisory Group of both Funds, which are considered a vital support to indigenous communities worldwide.

Invitations to the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and cooperation with them

125. The Forum urges the United Nations Secretariat to protect the privileges and immunities of members of the Forum and recommends that immediate action be taken to address any reported incidents.

126. Should members of the Forum wish to submit working papers to the Forum under the various areas of its mandate, they are hereby formally recommended to do so.

127. The Forum, taking into account the importance and potential of regional inter-governmental organizations in promoting indigenous issues in their respective regions, invites those organizations to contribute annually to its work.

Indigenous women

128. The Forum recommends that the Economic and Social Council, the relevant United Nations cooperating agencies and Governments of the region provide technical facilities and grant the necessary political and moral support for organizing:

(a) The Fourth Continental Summit of Indigenous Women of the Americas, to be held in Lima in March 2004;

(b) The Second Continental Conference of Indigenous Women of Africa, to be held in Nairobi, 2003;

(c) The Second Conference of Asian Indigenous Women, to be held in 2004.

129. The Forum recommends that the special theme of its third session be "Indigenous women".

Methods of work

130. Noting the challenge of securing the constructive participation of indigenous peoples' organizations in its sessions and ongoing work and of developing an active partnership between civil society, Governments and the United Nations system, the Forum recommends that a workshop be convened to develop innovative working methods for future sessions of the Forum, including methods of disseminating information before the sessions.

131. The Forum decides to create a database of recommendations proposed by Forum members and observers during sessions of the Forum that are not reflected in reports of the sessions, for further consideration.

Chapter II
Introduction

1. The Forum held its first session at United Nations Headquarters from 13 to 24 May 2002 and submitted its report to the Council.[5]

2. By its decision 2002/285, the Council decided that the second session of the Forum would be held at United Nations Headquarters from 12 to 23 May 2003.

3. By its decision 2003/219, the Council took note of the provisional agenda for the second session of the Forum.

[5] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 23* (E/2002/43/Rev.1).

Chapter III

Theme of the session: "Indigenous children and youth"

1. The Forum considered item 3 of its agenda in the form of a high-level panel at its 2nd, 3rd, 18th and 19th meetings, on 12, 13 and 23 May 2003.

2. At the same meeting, the Chairman of the second session acted as Moderator, and presentations were made by Nina Pacari Vega, Foreign Minister of Ecuador; Jacob Doek, Chairperson, Committee on the Rights of the Child; Ida Nicolaisen, member of the Forum; Lisa Garrett, a representative of indigenous youth; Nils Kastberg of the United Nations Children's Fund; Lee Swepston of the International Labour Organization; Jones Kyazze of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; and Jackie Sims of the World Health Organization.

3. Also at the same meeting, the Forum engaged in an interactive dialogue, and interventions were made by the following members of the Forum: Otilia Lux de Coti, Njuma Ekundanayo, Wilton Littlechild, Marcos Matias Alonso, Qin Xiaomei and Mililani Trask.

4. At the same meeting, statements were made by the observer for Mexico and the following indigenous organizations: Centre for Organization, Research and Education and Assembly of First Nations.

5. At its 3rd meeting, on 13 May, the Forum continued its discussion on the item and statements were made by the observers for the following countries and organizations: Indigenous Youth from Assembly of First Nations; Elder's Caucus; Women's Caucus; World Council of Churches; Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee; Comisión Jurídica; Canada; Brazil; Finland; Japan; Coordinadora de las Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca Amazónica; Consejo Indio de Sud America; Asociacion de Estudiantes Kumas Universitarios; Parakuiyo Community in Tanzania; Foundation for Aboriginal Research Action; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission; and Oficina Independiente de la Defensoria de los Pueblos Indigenas del Ecuador in America.

6. At the same meeting, a statement was made by Ida Nicolaisen, member of the Forum and a panellist.

Action taken by the Forum

7. At its 18th and 19th meetings, on 23 May, the Forum adopted its recommendations on item 3 (E/C.19/2003/L.1/Rev.1 and L.3) (see chap. I, sect. B) and took note of the Chairperson's summary of the discussions of the panel on the item (E/C.19/2003/L.2 and L.2/Corr.1).

Chapter IV

Methods of work of the Forum with the United Nations system

1. The Forum considered item 5 of its agenda at its 3rd, 4th and 19th meetings, on 13 and 23 May 2003.

2. At its 3rd meeting, on 13 May, the Forum engaged in an interactive dialogue. The following United Nations agencies made introductory statements and responded to questions raised by members of the Forum: the ILO; World Bank; WHO and UNICEF.

3. At the same meeting, the following members of the Forum made interventions: Otilia Lux de Coti, Yuji Iwasawa, Antonio Jacanamijoy, Wilton Littlechild, Wayne Lord, Marcos Matias Alonso, Ida Nicolaisen, Qin Xiaomei, Zinaida Strogalschikova, Parshuram Tamang, Mililani Trask and Fortunato Turpo Choquehuanca.

4. At its 4th meeting, on 13 May, the Forum continued its discussion on item 5 and heard statements by the following members of the Forum: Njuma Ekundanayo, Ayitegan Kouevi, Wilton Littlechild, Wayne Lord, Marcos Matias Alonso, Ida Nicolaisen, Mililani Trask and Fortunato Turpo Choquehuanca.

5. At the same meeting, statements were made by the observers for the following countries and organizations: World Intellectual Property Organization; Teton Sioux Nation Treaty Council and Regional and Global Organization; Asian Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Network; Lumad Peoples Movement for Peace; Hill Watch Human Rights Forum; Pacific Caucus; Rapa Nui Parliament; Aotearoa Indigenous Rights Trust; The Koani Foundation; Na Koa Ikaika o Ka La Hui Hawai'i; Dwan Adat Papua; Foundation for Aboriginal and Island Research Action; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission; International Society for Threatened Peoples; Tebtebba Foundation; Asian Caucus; Indigenous Peoples' Caucus on Sustainable Development; the Arctic Region; Mexico; Organización Indigena Chiquitana; New Zealand; Japan; IPACC and Tamaynut Africain Indigenous Peoples Coordinating Committee; the United Nations Institute for Training and Research; International Fund for Agricultural Development; the United Nations Human Settlements Programme; the Partnership for Indigenous Peoples Environment; Métis National Council; Indigenous Peoples and Nations Coalition; United Nations Association/United States of America and United Nations Association/Afghanistan; South Asia Indigenous Women's Forum, Tonatierra; International Organization of Indigenous Resource Development; Confederacy of Treaty Six Chiefs; Foundation for Aboriginal and Islander Research Action; Australia; Indigenous Peoples Caucus for the Permanent Forum.

Action taken by the Forum

6. At its 19th meeting, on 23 May, the Forum adopted a number of recommendations proposed under item 5 (E/C.19/2003/L.6 and L.12) (see chap. I, sect. B, paras. ___), and took note of the Chairperson's summaries of the discussion on the item (E/C.19/2003/L.2/Add.1 and L.2/Add.2/Corr.1).

Chapter V
Mandated areas

1. The Forum considered item 4 of its agenda at its 4th to 16th, and 18th and 19th meetings, from 13 to 23 May 2003.

A. Economic and social development

2. At the 4th meeting, on 13 May a statement on sub-item 4 (a) was made by the observer for the United Nations Development Programme.

3. At the 5th meeting, on 14 May, an interactive dialogue on the sub-item was conducted by the United Nations Forum on Forests, UN-Habitat, United Nations Population Fund, Inter-American Development Bank, United Nations Development Fund and the following members of the Forum: Mililani Trask, Ayitegan Kouevi, Marcos Matias Alonso, Ida Nicolaisen, Parshuram Tamang, Otilia Lux de Coti, Wayne Lord, Zinaida Strogalschikova, Njuma Ekundanayo and Qin Xiaomei.

4. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat.

5. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the observers for the following countries and organizations: Saami Council; Asian Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Network; Tebtebba Foundation; Bethechilokono; Mexico; Philippines; Saulteau First Nations; Coordinadora de las Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca Amazónica; Centro de Estudia Aymaras of Bolivia; Partnership for Indigenous Peoples Environment/International Oil Working Group; Parlamento del Pueblo Qullana Aymara; Consejo Internacional de Trafados Indios; Fundación para la promoción de Conocimiento Indigena.

6. At the 6th meeting, on 14 May, the Forum continued its discussion on the sub-item and statements were made by the observers for the following countries and organizations: Brazil; Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People; Tonatierra; Canada; World Bank; American Indian Community Health; Comisión Jurídica; the Indigenous Peoples Caucus on Sustainable Development; Inuit Circumpolar Conference; Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti; Foundation for Aboriginal and Islander Research Action; Indigenous Peoples and Nations Coalition; Pacific Caucus; Asian Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Network; Lumad Peoples Movement for Peace; Hill Watch Human Rights Forum; Consejo de Pueblos y Organizaciones Indígenas del Ecuador; Council of Spiritual Elders of Mother Earth (Turtle Islands); Asia Indigenous Peoples' Caucus; Association of Limbu Shamans of Nepal; Confederaciones Nacionalidades Indígenas del Ecuador; and Seventh Generation.

7. At the same meeting, statements were made by the following members of the Forum: Mililani Trask; Wilton Littlechild; Fortunato Turpo Choquehuanca; and Parshuram Tamang.

8. At the 7th meeting, on 15 May, the Forum continued its discussion of the sub-item and heard statements by the observers for the following countries and organizations: Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North; Yachay Wasi (Runa Simi) Quechua; Red Continental de Medios de Comunicacion

Indígenas; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission; Instituto Indígena Brasileiro; Defensoria de los Pueblos Indígenas del Ecuador en America; Tebtebba Foundation; African Indigenous and Minority Peoples Organization; South Asia Indigenous Women Forum and Nepal Tamong Women Ghedurg; Ogiek Rural Integral Program; the Ibazoi Tribe in Cordeillera of the Philippines; Universidad de las Regiones Autonomas de la Costa Caribe Nicaraguense; Hmong International Human Rights Watch; Armando Ualbuena for La Organizacion Nacional Indigena de Colombia; Centro de Promocion Para el Desarrollo Comunal Init; Coordinadora Indígena Campesina Agroforestales del Peru; Peace Campaign Group; Indigenous Peoples African Coordinating Committee; Grandmothers of Mother Earth; and World Summit on Information Society.

9. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the Director of the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

10. Also at the same meeting, the following members of the Forum made interventions: Antonio Jacanamijoy, Otilia Lux de Coti, Marcos Matias Alonso, Ayitegan Kouevi, Ida Nicolaisen, Zinaida Strogalschikova, Mililani Trask, Njuma Ekundanayo and Wilton Littlechild.

B. Environment

11. At the 8th meeting, on 15 May, Parshuram Tamang, member of the Forum, made a statement on sub-item 4 (b).

12. At the same meeting, statements were made on the sub-item by the observers for the following countries and organizations: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); Na Koa Ikaika o Ka La Hui Hawai'i; Indigenous Peoples Council on Biocolonialism; Coordinadora de las Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca Amazónica; Comunidad Tayja Saruta Sarayacu; Asia Caucus; Buffalo River Dene Nation; the Seventh Generation Fund; Indian Confederation of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples; United Native Nations Truth Network and Voice Confederation; Onyota 'A:Ka Haudenosaunee Oneida Indian Territory and Youth; Asia-Pacific Indigenous Youth Network; American Indian Community Health; Comisión Jurídica; Asociación de la Juventud Indígena; Indigenous Women of the Americas; Agogo Traditional Area of the Ashanti in Ghana; Partnership for Indigenous People's Environment; International Oil Working Group; Confederaciones Nacionalidades Indígenas del Ecuador; Defensoria de los Pueblos Indígenas del Ecuador en America; National Aboriginal Forestry Association; Centre for Organization, Research and Education; International Indigenous People's Think Tank; United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); Mexico; Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People; Bangladesh Indigenous People's Forum; Parbatya Chaftagram Jana Samhati Samiti; Tongya; Consejo Internacional de Tratados Indios; and Saami Council.

13. At the 9th meeting, on 16 May, the Forum continued its discussions on the sub-item and statements were made by the observers for the following countries and organizations: Indonesia; Fundación para la Promocion de Canoc Indígena; Saami Council; Cordillera Peoples' Alliance; Peace Campaign Group; International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD); Sage Council; Tonantzin Land Institute; Tonantierra; Seventh Generation Fund; Frente Indigena Oaxaqueño; Binacional; Indigenous Peoples' Caucus for Sustainable Development; Tebtebba Foundation;

Conferación Indigena Tayrona; Secretariat for the Convention on Biological Diversity; World Bank; Associacao Awete Kaiwa; Halau Ku Mana (YOUTH); Pacific Caucus; Yachay Wasi; Kmakakuokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies, University of Hawaii; Asociación de Criadores de Camelidos Andinos del Perú; Asociación de Mujeres Indiginas Alpaqueras de la Region; Instituto Indígena de Propriedad Intelectual; Brazil; Indigenous Environmental Network; and Alianza Internacional de Pueblos Indígenas y Tribales de los Bosques Tropicales.

14. At the same meeting, the Chairman also made a statement.

15. At the 10th meeting, on 16 May, the Forum continued its discussions of the sub-item and heard statements by the observers of the following countries and organizations: Indigenous Information Network; African Indigenous Women's Organization; Inuit Circumpolar Conference; Greenland/Denmark; OPIAC; AMAAI; Habitatpro; Ethnic Minority and Indigenous Rights Organisation of Africa; Faira Aboriginal Corporation; Warã Instituto Indigena; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission; Indigenous Peoples African Coordinating Committee; Australian Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission; Universidad de las Regiones Autonomas de la Costa Caribe Nicaraguense; Organización Nacional Indigena de Colombia; Asamblea Nacional Indigena Plural por la Autonomia; UNDP; Ashaninka-AIDESEP; Ka Lāhui Hawaii; Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North; the Haudenosaunee Six Nations of Iroquois Confederacy of Turtle Island (North America); Ibaloi Tribe, Philippines; Assembly of First Nations; and Ogiek Rural Integral Program.

16. At the same meeting, statements were also made by the following members of the Forum: Parshuram Tamang, Wilton Littlechild, Ayitegan Kouevi, Qin Xiaomei, Ida Nicolaisen, Otilia Lux de Coti, Fortunato Turpo Choquehuanca, Njuma Ekundanayo, and Antonio Jacanamijoy.

C. Health

17. At the 11th meeting, on 19 May, the Forum began its consideration of sub-item 4 (c) and Mililani Trask, member of the Forum, made a presentation.

18. At the same meeting, statements were made by the observers of the following countries and organizations: Consultoria de los Pueblos Indígenos en el Norte de Mexico; World Blind Union; Alaska Federation of Natives; Society for Threatened Peoples; American Indian Law Alliance; Centre for Organization, Research and Education, Canada; Boarding School Caucus; Confederacion de Nacionalidades Indigenas del Ecuador, Mexico; Centro de Estudios Ayuranos, Guyana; FAIRA Aboriginal Corporation; Aotearoa Indigenous Rights Trust; Indigenous Peoples Coordinating Committee of Africa; National Council of Indigenous Women of Ecuador; Indigenous Peoples Caucus on Sustainable Development; Arctic Indigenous Region; Organizacion Nacional Indigeno de Colombia; Altai Regional Public Organization of the Kumandin Peoples; Kamakaūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies, University of Hawaii; Hālau kū Māna and Siksika Nation.

19. At its 12th meeting, on 19 May, the Forum continued its discussion of the sub-item and statements were made by the observers for the following countries and organizations: Chickaloon Village (Nay'dini'aa'Na), Kenya Female Advisory Organization; Pacific Caucus; Statistics Division of the Department of Economic

and Social Affairs; Na Koa Ikaika o Ka La Hui Hawai'i; Indigenous Peoples Council on Biocolonialism; Indigenous Youth Caucus; International Indian Treaty Council; Indigenous Environmental Network; Asemblea Nacional Indigena Plural por la Autonomia; American Indian Law Alliance; Na Koa Ikaiko o Ka La Hui Hawai'i; Native Children's Survival, Teton Lakota Nation Treaty Council; Hawai'i Institute for Human Rights; FENOCIN-Ecuador; Indigenous Peoples' and Nations Coalition -- Alaska; Pit River Indian Nation; Alaska Community Action on Toxics; Indigenous World Association; Assembly of First Nations; Instituto Tonanzin; Frente Indigena Oaxaqueno; Mujeres Mayas de Jovel Maya'ik de Chiapas Mexico; First Peoples Worldwide; Fundación para la Promoción de Conocimiento Indigena; American Indian Treaty Council Information Center; Asociacion Nabguana; Coordinadora Nacional de Pequenos y Medianos Productores de Guatemala; Association of Limba Shaman; Kulung Rai Language and Cultural Development Community; TRIPURA; Bangladesh Adivashi Forum; Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti; Hill Tracts NGO Forum; Taungya; Trinamul; Committee on Indigenous Health; Asia Caucus (Cordillera Peoples' Alliance); Center for Organization, Research and Education; American Indian Community House; Pine Ridge Reservation; Asian Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Network; Lumad Peoples Movement for Peace; Hill Watch Human Rights Forum; Assembly of First Nations; Organization of Loacan Indigenous Peoples; Consejo de Anciano del Continiente de Latino America; World Council of Churches; Defensoria de los Pueblos Indígenos del Ecuador en America; Fundacion para la Promocion de Conoc Indigenos; Brazil; Aboriginal and Islander Commission; Tin Hinan; Indigenous Peoples Survival Foundation; American Psychological Association; Yachak de Comunidad Ilumarí; Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North; International Native Tradition Interchange; and Pan American Health Organization.

20. At the 13th meeting, on 20 May, the Forum continued its discussions on the sub-item of health and statements were made by the observers for the following organizations: T'suu Tina Nation; Retrieve Foundation; Fundacion de Gente Indigena Yanomami; Health Unlimited; Associacao Awaete Kaiwa; Jharkhandis Organisation for Human Rights; Enlace Continental de Mujeres Indigenas; Casa Nativa Tampa Allgo Peru; the Navajo Nation; and World Bank.

21. At the same meeting, statements were made by the following members of the Forum: Mililani Trask, Wilton Littlechild, Otilia Lux de Coti, Njuma Ekundanayo, Qin Xiaomei, Ida Nicolaisen, Parshuram Tamang and Antonio Jacanamijoy.

D. Human rights

22. At its 14th meeting, on 20 May, the Forum considered sub-item 4 (d) and an interactive dialogue was conducted between the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as Mrs. Daes, the permanent member of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, and the following members of the Forum: Marcos Matias Alonso, Fortunato Turpo Choquehuanca, Ayitegau Kouevi, Wilton Littlechild, Otilia Lux de Coti, Ida Nicolaisen, Qin Xiaomei, Zinaida Strogalschikova, and Mililani Trask.

23. Statements were made by the observers of the following countries and organizations: Finland; Mexico; Nigeria; Norway; Indigenous People's Participants

in the World Bank October 2002 Round Table; Asia Pacific Indigenous Youth Network; Pacific Caucus; Rapa Nui Hawaii; Na Koa Ikaika o Ka Lahui Hawaii; the Koani Foundation; Dewan Adat Papua; Foundation for Aboriginal and Island Research Action; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission; Pacific Concerns Resource Center; Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific; Waikiki Hawaiian Civic Club; International Indian Treaty Council; Indigenous Environmental Network; Seventh Generation Fund; Indigenous Peoples and Nations Coalition; Wa Koa Ikaika oka Lahui Hawaii; Asian Indigenous Second Tribal Peoples Network; Hill Watch Human Rights Forum; Lumad Peoples Movement for Peace; FAIRA Aboriginal; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commission; Indigenous Peoples African Coordinating Committee; Tamaynut; Bangladesh Indigenous Peoples Forum; National Indigenous Peoples Council; Khasi Welfare Association; Tribal Welfare Association; Taungya; PCJSS; Peace Campaign Group; Saami Council; Inuit Circumpolar Conference; Enlace Continental de Mujeres Indígenas and Asamblea Nacional Indígena Plural por la Autonomía; Coordinadora Nacional de Mujeres Indígenas de México; Coordinadora Nacional de Mujeres Indígenas de Panamá; Taller Permanente Perú; Asociación Nacional de Mujeres de la Costa Atlántica y Servicios para el Desarrollo; National Indigenous Institute; Indigenous peop'es of Saint Lucia; The Aldet Centre-Saint Lucia; International Alliance against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance; Fundación para la Promoción Indígenas Inti; Conocimientos Indígenas; Tonatzin; Asociación Napguana; Asia Caucus; Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact Foundation; Hill Tract NGO Forum; PCJSS (Bangladesh); Nepal Federation of Nationalities; Binora Institute for Research and Action; Naga Peoples Movement for Human Rights; Borok Indigenous Peoples Development Centre; Bawm Indigenous Peoples Organisation; Chin Human Rights Organisation; Impect; Conto; Centre for Development of Mountainous Areas; Indigenous Women's Network of Ratauakiri, C'dia; Partners of Community Organisations (Pazos Trust); Indigenous Peoples Network of Malaysia; ATIPP; Codillera Peoples Alliances; Tebtebba Foundation; International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forest; Karen Youth Organisation; Republic of Bambuti Community of the Democratic Republic of the Congo; and Union pour l'Emancipation de la Femme Autochtone de la Republique démocratique du Congo.

24. At its 15th meeting, on 21 May, statements on the sub-item were also made by the following members of the Forum: Yuji Iwasawa, Ayitegau Kouevi and Otilia Lux de Coti.

25. At the same meeting, the observer for Indonesia made a statement in reply.

E. Culture

26. At its 15th meeting, on 21 May, the Forum considered sub-item 4 (e) and an interactive dialogue was conducted between the observer for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the following members of the Forum: Fortunato Turpo Choquhuanca, Njuma Ekudanayo, Ayitegau Kouevi, Willie Littlechild, Otilia Lux de Coti, Ida Nicolaisen, Qin Xiaomei and Parshuram Tamang.

27. At the same meeting, statements were made by the observers for the following countries and organizations: Canada; Guatemala; Mexico; New Zealand; Griqua National Conference of South Africa; National Khoi-San Conference; Consejo Indio de Sudamerica; Aymara Parliament; Aymara Alliance; Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee; Tamaymut; Goduka: Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe; Central Michigan University; Consejo Internacional de Tratados Indios; Fundación para la Promoción de Conocimientos Indígenas; Asociación Nabguana; Tonantzin Land Institute; Maasai Women for Education and Economic Development; Indigenous People's Programme; World Council of Churches; Consultoría de los Pueblos Indígenas en el Norte de México; Agencia Internacional de Prensa India; Asamblea Nacional Indígena Plural por la Autonomía y Servicios para el Desarrollo; Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center; Movimiento de Unificación y Lucha Triqui; Asia Caucus; Committee on Indigenous Health; Alaska Federation of Natives; Indigenous Youth Caucus; Indigenous Peoples of the Caribbean Antilles; Pacific Caucus; Boarding School Caucus; Sovereign Dineh Nation (Navajo); Confederaciones de Nacionalidades Indígenas del Ecuador; European Parliament; World Festival of Sports and Culture; Rapa Nui Parliament; and Parlamento Indígena de America. At the same meeting, the Chairman made a statement.

F. Education

28. At its 16th meeting, on 21 May, the Forum considered sub-item 4 (f) and an interactive dialogue was conducted between the observer for UNESCO and the following members of the Forum: Fortunato Turpo Choquehuanca, Wilton Littlechild, Otilia Lux de Coti and Zinaida Strogalschikova.

29. Statements were made by the observers of the following countries and organizations: Bangladesh; Brazil; Mexico; Myanmar; Sweden; Pacific Caucus: Rapa Nui Parliament; Aotearoa Indigenous RightsTrust; Ka Lahui Hawaii; Na Koa Ikaika o Ka Lahui Hawai'i; Koani Foundation; Dewan Adat Papua; Foundation for Aboriginal and Island Research Action; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission; Pacific Concerns Resource Center; Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific; Waikiki Hawaiian Civic Club; Navajo Nation; Inuit Youth International; Arctic Region Youth; the former Indigenous Fellows of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; Bangladesh, Adivasi Forum; Belize (on behalf of CARICOM); PCJSS; HTNF; Taungya; Trinamul; Peace Campaign Group; Asia-Pacific Indigenous Youth Network; Center for Organization, Research and Education; Aymara Alliance; First Peoples' Worldwide; Canadian Teacher's Federation; Education International, Belgium; The Ainu Association of Hokkaido; AMAAI; Organización de los Pueblos Indígenas de la Amazonia Colombiana; St. John's Mission; BIJNI; Indian Confederation of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, Northeast Zone; Bodoland Children's Home (India); Asia Indigenous Caucus: South Asia Indigenous Women Forum, Asia Indigenous Peoples' Pact, Nepal Tamang Ghedung; Association of Limbus; Tebtebba Foundation; Consejo Internacional de Tratados Indios; Fundación para la Promoción de Conocimientos Indígenas; Asociación Nabguana; Asociación de Estudiantes Kunas Universitarios; Tonantzin Land Institute; Boarding School Caucus; Global Teaching and Learning Project; Department of Public Information, United Nations; The Holy See; Consejo Nacional Indio de Venezuela; Proyecto de Desarrollo Santiago, Prodessa; Plataforma Maya; Agencia Internacional de Prensa India; Región Centro Occidente

Michoacán/Jalisco/Nayarit; Ka Lahui Hawai'i (Halau Ku Mana); Nepal; Indigenous peoples of Saint Lucia; and Regional Action Group for the Environment.

30. The Chairman made a statement on his meeting with the President of the Security Council.

* * *

Action taken by the Forum

31. At its 18th and 19th meetings, on 23 May, the Forum, in adopting the draft recommendations submitted under agenda item 4 (E/C.19/2003/L.13-18 and L.19/Add.1), identified a number of proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action, and, through the Economic and Social Council, requested States, the United Nations system and intergovernmental organizations, indigenous peoples, the private sector and NGOs to assist in their implementation (see chap. I.B). The Forum also took note of the Chairperson's summary of the discussion on the item (E/C.19/2003/L.2 and Add.2 to 7 and L.2/Add.2/Corr.1 and L.2/Add.4/Corr.1).

Chapter VI
Future work of the Forum

1. At its 17th meeting, on 22 May, the Forum considered agenda item 6. Statements were made by the observers of the following countries and organizations: Colombia; Denmark; Dominica; Mexico; New Zealand; Venezuela; Sovereign Dineh Nation; Haudenosaunee Ska-Roh-Reh; Assembly of First Nations; Saulteau First Nation; Nippissing First Nation; Majority Caucus; Indigenous Nations Network; Tetunwa Oyate; Oglala Lakota Nation; Canadian Teacher's Federation; Education International; Indigenous Peoples Centre for Documentation, Research and Information; The Society for Threatened Peoples; Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North; Asociación Napguana and Tebtebba; Center for Research and Education; Dewan Adat Papua; Jebra Muchahary; Wara Iinstituto Indígena Brasileiro; Buffalo River Dene; Pacific Caucus; Aotearoa Indigenous Rights Trust; Cono Sur; Comiti Intratribal; Instituto Indígena Brasileiro de Propriedade Intelectual; Faira Aboriginal Corporation; Indigenous People's Caucus on Sustainable Development; Tebtebba; Raipon; Indigenous Environment Network; International Indian Treaty Council; Ixacavaa; Africa Indigenous Women's Organization; Asociación de la Juventud Indígena Argentina; Movimiento de la Juventud Indígena de Panamá; Asociación de Estudiantes Universitarios Kunas; The Navajo Nation; International Indian Treaty Council; Regional Action Group for the Environment; Indigenous Nations Network; United Native Nations Truth Network; and Voice Confederation.

Action taken by the Forum

2. At its 19th meeting, on 23 May, the Forum, in adopting the draft recommendations submitted under agenda item 6 (E/C.19/2003/L.6 and L.12), identified a number of proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action, and, through the Economic and Social Council, requested States, the United Nations system and intergovernmental organizations, indigenous peoples, the private sector and NGOs to assist in their implementation (see chap. I, sect. B).

Chapter VII
Provisional agenda for the third session of the Forum

1. The Forum considered agenda item 7 at its 17th meeting, on 22 May, and statements were made by the observers of the following organizations: Indigenous Women's Caucus; Aymara Alliance; and Consejo Indio de Sudamérica.

Action taken by the Forum

2. At its 19th meeting, on 23 May, the Forum adopted the provisional agenda for its third session (E/C.19/2003/L.11) and recommended it for approval by the Economic and Social Council (see chap. I.A, draft decision VI).

Chapter VIII
Adoption of the report of the Forum on its second session

1. At the 18th and 19th meetings, on 23 May, the Rapporteur introduced the draft report of the Forum on its second session (E/C.19/2003/L.19 and Add.1).

2. At the same meeting, the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, made a statement on the programme budget implications of the draft recommendations submitted by the Forum.

3. Also at the same meeting, the Forum took note of the Chairperson's summary of the discussions of the Forum at its second session (E/C.19/2003/L.2/Add.1 to 7).

4. At the same meeting, the Forum adopted its report on its second session.

5. At the same meeting, statements were made by the President of the Economic and Social Council, a Maasai Elder and the Chairperson of the Forum. The second session was then declared closed.

Chapter IX
Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues held its second session at United Nations Headquarters from 12 to 23 May 2003. It held 19 formal meetings (1st to 19th) and a number of informal meetings.

2. At the 1st meeting, on 12 May, the session was opened by the Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women. During the inauguration ceremony, the floor was given to Tadodaho Chief and Elder, and a representative of indigenous youth, for a traditional indigenous welcome.

3. At the same meeting, a statement was made by Ole Henrik Magga, Chairperson of the Forum.

4. Also at the same meeting, the Assistant Secretary-General made a statement on behalf of the Secretary-General.

5. At the same meeting, the Director of the New York Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights made a statement on behalf of the High Commissioner.

6. At the same meeting, statements were also made by the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people, and the Chairperson of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations.

B. Attendance

7. Members of the Forum and representatives of Governments, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental organizations, as well as of non-governmental organizations and indigenous organizations, attended the session. The list of participants is contained in annex I.

C. Election of officers

8. At its 1st meeting, on 13 May, the Forum re-elected the following members of the Bureau by acclamation:

Chairperson:
Ole Henrik Magga

Vice-Chairpersons:
Njuma Ekundanayo
Antonio Jacanamijoy
Parshuram Tamang
Mililani Trask

Rapporteur:
Wilton Littlechild

D. Agenda

9. At its 1st meeting, on 12 May, the Forum adopted the provisional agenda contained in document E/C.19/2003/1, which read:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Theme of the session: "Indigenous children and youth".
4. Mandated areas:
   (a) Economic and social development;
   (b) Environment;
   (c) Health;
   (d) Human rights;
   (e) Culture;
   (f) Education.
5. Methods of work of the Forum with the United Nations system.
6. Future work of the Forum.
7. Provisional agenda for the third session of the Forum.
8. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its second session.

E. Documentation

10. The documents before the Forum at its second session are listed in annex II to the present report.

Annex I

Attendance

Members

Marcos Matias Alonso (Mexico), Yuri Boitchenko (Russian Federation), Fortunato Turpo Choquehuanca (Peru), Otilia Lux de Coti (Guatemala), Njuma Ekundanayo (Democratic Republic of the Congo), Yuji Iwasawa (Japan), Ayitegan Kouevi (Togo), Willie Littlechild (Canada), Wayne Lord (Canada), Ole Henrik Magga (Norway), Ida Nicolaisen (Denmark), Xiaomei Qin (China), Zinaida Strogalschikova (Russian Federation), Parshuram Tamang (Nepal), Antonio Segundo Jacanamijoy Tisoy (Colombia), Mililani Trask (United States of America)

States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Finland, Guatemala, Guyana, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, South Africa, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tonga, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam

Non-member States represented by observers

Holy See

United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations

African Union, Committee on the Rights of the Child, Convention on Biological Diversity, Council of Europe European Commission, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Inter-American Development Bank, International Fund for Agricultural Development, International Labour Organization, International Organization for Migration, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Development Fund for Women, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Human Settlements Programme, United Nations Institute for Training and Research, United Nations Population Fund, United Nations Secretariat, World Bank, World Health Organization, World Intellectual Property Organization

Indigenous peoples organizations

(Organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council appear in bold type)

Abya Yala Nexus, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, **Action Aides aux Familles Demunies (AAFD)**, **African Center Foundation**, African Indigenous

and Minority Peoples Organisation (AIMPO), African Indigenous Women Organization-Eastern Africa, Agence Africaine d'Assistance pour l'Environnement et le Developpement, Agencia Internacional de Prensa India, Ainu Association of Hokkaido, Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc., AlifUru.org, Almaciga Grupo de Trabajo Intercultural, Amazon Alliance, **American Indian Law Alliance**, Aotegroa Indigenous Rights Trust, **Armenian International Women's Association**, Asamblea Nacional Indigena Plural por la Autonomia (ANIPA), Asia Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Network, Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP), Asian Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Network (AITPN), Asociacion de Artesanos Indigenas IRPA, Asociacion de Comunidades Campesainas "Quechuas del Ande", Asociacion de criadores de Camelidos Andinos de la Region Puno, Asociacion de Mujeres Indigenas Alpaqueras, Asociacion Interetnica de Desarrollo de la Salva Peruana, Asociacion Exacavaa de Desarrollo e informacion indigena, Asociación Napguana, Asociacion Regional Indigena del DIKES, ARADIKES y Kus-Kura Sociedad civil, **Assembly of First Nations**, Associacao Organizacional Beneficiente Awaete Kaiwa Guarani, Association of Limbu Shamans, Association of the Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the Russian Federation, Aukin Wallmapu Ngulam: Consejo de Todas las Tierras Mapuche, Australian Aboriginal Cultural Performers (Awabakal), BRACs, Casa Nativa Tampa Aliqo, Centre for Organisation Research & Education (CORE), Centre for Sami Studies, Centro de Documentacion en Derechos Humanos, Centro de Estudios Aymaras, Centro de Promocion para el Desarrolo Comuna INTI/Asociacion de Mujeres Ricohari Warmi, Centro Shuar san Ramon, Chickaloon Village, Chin Human Rights Organization (CHRO), Chirapaq Centro de Culturas Indigenas del Perú, CMU-Sagina Chippewa Indian Tribe, COBASE, Colectivo de Estudios aplicades al Desarollo Social CEADES, Comision Juridica para el Autodesarrollo de los Pueblos Originarios Andinos "Capaj", CONAIE, Confederacion de Nacionalidades Indigenas del Ecuador (CONAIE), Confederación de Organizaciones Campesinas, Indígenas y Negras FENOCIN, Confederacion Indigena del Oriente Chaco y Amazonia de Bolivia Villa 10 de Mayo, Confederacion Indigena Tairona, Consejo de Ancianos de la Nacion Moskitia, Consejo de Pueblos y Organizaciones Indigenas Evangelicos del Ecuador FEINE, Consejo Indio de Sudamerica (CISA), Consejo Nacional Aymara Mallkus y T'Allas (C.N.A.), Consejo Nacional de Ayllus y Markas de Quillasuyu (CONAMAQ), Consejo Nacional Indio de Venezuela, Cordillera Peoples Alliance, Defensoria de los Pueblos Indigenas del Ecuador en America, Dene Navaho Nation, Dewan Adat Byak (The Byak Custom Council), Dewan Adat Papua (Papua Customary Council), Enlace continental de Mujeres Indigenas, Ethnics Minority and Indigenous Rights (EMIROAF), Federacion Provincial de centros Shuar de Sucumbios "FEPCESH-S", Federation des Organisations Amerindiennes de Guyane, Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations Senate, First Nations North & South, Flying Eagle Woman Fund for Peace, Justice and Sovereignty, Fon-Ifè Population in Togo, Foundation Ecological "Shuar kampunniu Chichame", Foundation for Aboriginal and Islander Research Action (FAIRA), Friends of the Indigenous Elders, Fundacion Intercultural Alitasia, Fundacion Rigoberta Menchu Tum, Grupo de Musica Danza y Artesania NINKUI, Guyanese Organisation of Indigenous Peoples, Haudenosaunee Land Rights Commision, Herbert H. Lehman College, Hmong International Human Rights Watch, Indian Confederation of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, Indian Council of South America (CISA), Indian Law Resource Center, Indigenous Law and Policy Programs (IPLP), Indigenous Law Institute, Indigenous Nationality Association of Nepal, Indigenous Network on Economies

and Trade, Indigenous Peoples and Nations Coalition, Indigenous Peoples Council on Biocolonialism, Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordination Committee (IPACC), Indigenous Peoples Survival Foundation, Indigenous Villages Development Service Association, Indigenous Women Initiative, Indigenous World Association, Institute for International Law and Justice, NYU School of Law, Instituto Indigena Brasileiro de Propriedade Intelectual (Brasil), Instituto Socio Ambiental ISA, International Indian Law Resource Center, **International Indian Treaty Council**, International Institute for the Study and Preservation of Aboriginal Peoples and their Cultures, International Organization of Indigenous Resource, International Service for Human Rights, **International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs**, INUIT Circumpolar Conference, Jumma Peoples Network, Ka Lahui Hawai'I, Kalpulli tlalteca, Kenya Female Advisory Organization, Kobe Oser (West Pappua Melanesia), Kulung Rai Language and Cultural Development Community, La Red Xicana Indigena, Lembus Indigenous People, Lungie Cmu Saginas Chippewa, Mboscuda, Mejlis of Crimean Tatar People, Mena Muria Foundation, Metis National Council, Mohawk Nation at Kahnawake, Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People, Movimiento Accion y Resistencia "M.A.R.", Movimiento Indigena de Guyana, Movimiento Indigena de tungurahua, MIT, Na Koa Ikaika o Ka Lahui Hawaii, Naserian Womens Group, National Aboriginal Forestry Association, National Congress of American Indians, **Native American Rights Fund**, Navajo Nation Council, Netherlands Center for Indigenous Peoples (NCIV), NGO Committee on the International Decade, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Office of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commissioner, Ogiek rural integral projects (ORIP), Onondaga Nation, OPIAC, Organisacion de los Pueblos Indigenas de la Amazonia Colombiana (OPIAC) Inc., Organizacion Indigena Chiquitana (OICH), OVAD-AP, Parbattya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti (PCJSS), Parlamento Indigena de America, Presidencia Grupo Venezuela, Partnership for Indigenous Peoples Environment, Pesquisas y Proyectos Necesarios A. C., Piffik Nutaag, Pimiaikanuk, Plains Indians Cultural Survival School Society, Presencia Taina, TV, Proyecto de Desarrollo Santiago PRODESSA, Pueblos Indios Consejo Continental Americano, Punachizak, Rapa Nui Parliament, Red Continental de Medios de Comunicacion Indigenas, Red Earth Studio consulting/Productions, Retrieve Foundation, Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (RAIPON), Saami Council, SAGE Council (Sacred Alliance for Grassroots Equality), Saulteau First Nation, Shimin Gaikou Centre, Simba Maasai Outreach Organization (SIMOO), Sisa Pakari, South Asia Indigenous Women Forum and Nepal Tamang Ghedung, Sovereign Dineh Nation, Navajo Tribe, Spiritual Elder's of Mother Earth, Taller de Difusion Andina "Mashicuna", Taungya, Tayja Saruta Sarayacu, Tazzla Institute for Cultural Diversity, Tebtebba Foundation — Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education, Teton Sioux Nation Treaty Council, The Aldet Centre Saint Lucia, The American Indian Community House, The Australian National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC), The Koani Foundation, The Navajo Nation, The Pachamama Alliance, The Seventh Generation Fund, Tin Hinan, Tonantzin Land Institute, TONATIERRA, Tribal Link Foundation, Umulliko, Union pour l'Emancipation de la Femme Autochtone (UEFA), Unissons-Nous Pour La Promotion Des Batwa (UNIPROBA), United Confederation of Taino People, Vivat International, Wampum International, Wara Instituto Indigena Brasileiro, Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, West Papua Indigenous Student and Youth (AWPISY), White Hawk Indian Council, World Festival of Traditional Games & Sports, **Yachay Wasi (House of Learning in the Quechua Language of Peru)**,

Yayasan Konsultasi Pendidikan Masyarakat Papua, Zambuulin For Moral Rebirth and Cultural Development

Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

Amnesty International, Anglican Consultative Council, Church World Service, Center for International Environmental Law, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, Congregations of St. Joseph, Dominican Leadership Conference, Education International, Elizabeth Seton Foundation, Franciscans International, Friends World Committee for Consultation, International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, International Federation of University Women, Linguistic & Other Minorities International, Service for Human Rights, Global Education Associates, Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic Inc., Pan African Movement, Partnership Africa Canada, Rainforest Foundation, School Sisters of Notre Dame, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, Society for Threatened Peoples, Summer Institute of Linguistics, United Methodist Church — General Board of Church and Society, United Nations Association of the USA, World Blind Union

Non-governmental organizations not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

Arctic Fire Productions, American Anthropological Association, American Friends Service Committee, American-Scandinavian Foundation, Action Against Hunger, Association pour la Promotion Durable de la Femme Defavorisées, DoCip Indigenous People's Centre for Documentation, Research and Information, Fini Fini, Habitat Pro Association, Health Unlimited, Land is Life, Minority Rights Group International, Montagnard Human Rights Organization, Office of Treaty Settlements, Pathways to Peace, Peace Campaign Group, Regional Action Group from the Environment Inc., Spirit Net of Estonia, St. John FS Mission, Bijni, Sunray Meditation Society

Academic organizations

American Indian Community House Human Rights Program/University of Chicago, Borough of Manhattan Community College/City University of New York, City University of New York, Columbia University, Dalhousie University, Indian Law Program, University of New Mexico School of Law, Institute on Globalization and the Human Condition, McMaster, Institute of Human Rights, Law Faculty University of Auckland, New School University, Muhlenberg College, Rutgers University, UNESCO Centre of Catalonia, University of Alaska Fairbanks, University of California, University of Concordia, University of Deusto, University of Hawai'I-Manoa, University of Oxford, University of Tulsa College of Law, Victoria University of Wellington Law School

Annex II

Documentation

Symbol	*Title*
E/C.19/2003/1	Provisional agenda
E/C.19/2003/2	Proposed organization of work
E/C.19/2003/3	Note by the secretariat of the Forum on outcomes achieved in response to the first session of the Forum
E/C.19/2003/4	Information received from the United Nations system: joint paper on data collection and disaggregation by ethnicity
E/C.19/2003/5	Information received from the United Nations system: United Nations Institute for Training and Research
E/C.19/2003/6	Information received from the United Nations system: International Labour Organization
E/C.19/2003/7	Information received from the United Nations system: World Health Organization
E/C.19/2003/8	Information received from the United Nations system: United Nations Human Settlements Programme
E/C.19/2003/9	Information received from Governments: Finland
E/C.19/2003/10	Information received from Governments: Mexico
E/C.19/2003/11	Note by the secretariat of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations on the allocation of travel agents
E/C.19/2003/12	Information received from Governments: Ecuador
E/C.19/2003/13	Information received from the United Nations system: United Nations Children's Fund
E/C.19/2003/14	Information received from the United Nations system: World Intellectual Property Organization
E/C.19/2003/15	Note by the Secretariat on the high-level panel and dialogue on indigenous children and youth
E/C.19/2003/16	Information received from Governments: Russian Federation
E/C.19/2003/17	Information received from Governments: Sweden
E/C.19/2003/18	Information received from the United Nations system: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
E/C.19/2003/19	Information received from the United Nations system: United Nations Development Programme

Symbol	*Title*
E/C.19/2003/20	Information received from Governments: Australia
E/C.19/2003/21	Information received from the United Nations system: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
E/C.19/2003/L.5 and L.7-11	Draft decisions
E/C.19/2003/L.1/ Rev.1, L.3-4, L.6, L.12, L.13 and 13/Rev.1, L.14-15 and L.17-18	Draft recommendations
E/C.19/2003/L.2 and Add.1-7	Chairperson's summaries
E/C.19/2003/L.19 and Add.1	Draft report
E/C.19/2003/NGO/1	Statements submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: International Indian Treaty Council
E/C.19/2003/NGO/2	Statements submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: Tebtebba Foundation
E/C.19/2003/CRP.1	Information received from the Division for the Advancement of Women
E/C.19/2003/CRP.2	Declaration on the sacred birthright of indigenous children and youth
E/C.19/2003/CRP.3	Information received from the United Nations system: UNESCO activities regarding indigenous issues
E/C.19/2003/CRP.4	Indigenous issues and the Inter-American Development Bank
E/C.19/2003/CRP.5	Information received from the United Nations system: Information note by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
E/C.19/2003/CRP.6	Statement submitted by American Indian Law Alliance: Plan of action to assure the sacred birthright of indigenous children and youth
E/C.19/2003/CRP.7	(Spanish only) Información recibida de los Gobiernos: Venezuela
E/C.19/2003/CRP.8	(Spanish only) Asuntos indígenas y el Banco Interamericano de desarrollo
E/C.19/2003/CRP.9	Information received from Governments: Norway

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Committee of Experts on Public Administration

Report on the second session (7-11 April 2003)

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Committee of Experts on Public Administration

Report on the second session (7-11 April 2003)

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Summary

The present report contains the main findings and recommendations of the second session of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration, held at United Nations Headquarters from 7 to 11 April 2003. The Committee, which was established by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2001/45, consists of 24 experts appointed in their personal capacity for a four-year period. In accordance with Council decision 2003/207, the Committee discussed: (a) enhancing the capacity of public administration to implement the United Nations Millennium Declaration; (b) basic data on the public sector; and (c) United Nations activities on public administration.

Based on the discussion of the above-mentioned topics, the Committee concluded that the need to revitalize and revalidate public administration to enable the State to perform its changing role so as to better serve citizens is an overarching priority for all countries. It pointed out that, indeed, one of the most critical issues emerging from each of the major international conferences and summits on topics of global concern had been the central role of governance systems and institutions in promoting economic and social development; increasing the access of services to the vast majority of the poor; enforcing human rights legislation; enhancing the participation of women in the development process; and protecting the quality of the environment. Given the importance of efficient public administration systems for the attainment of social development goals, it also recommended that the Economic and Social Council establish linkages between the work of the Commission for Social Development and the remit and work of the Committee.

Moreover, and in light of the above, the Committee recommended that the Economic and Social Council bring the issue of governance and public administration to the forefront of the development agenda and suggested that the Council might wish to devote its next high-level segment to this topic. It further recommended that public administration issues become an integral part of the process of follow-up to conferences, and suggested that the Committee itself could serve as a valuable source of advice to the intergovernmental machinery in that respect.

As mandated, the Committee reviewed, commented and made recommendations on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance. In particular, the Committee recommended that the Secretariat continue to provide, upon request of Member States, technical advisory support in the areas of enhancing the quality of personnel in the public sector; reinforcing governance and public administration systems and institutions; and fostering transparency and accountability, as well as reconstructing public administration in post-conflict countries and in situations of decentralized governance. It also recommended that the Secretariat undertake additional work to further analyse and delineate the role of the State as enabler and user of knowledge and technology in order to support and encourage innovation throughout public administration and society as a whole. Furthermore, it recommended that the Secretariat continue its work in the field of basic data on the public sector and progressively expand the number of indicators, focusing in particular on government efficiency, transparency and participation. It

suggested that this exercise be carried out in partnership with agencies and institutes currently working on this topic.

The Committee commended the *World Public Sector Report* as being an extremely valuable tool for policy makers and practitioners in Member States; recommended that the Secretariat should focus, in its next issue, on human resources development; and advised the Secretariat of the usefulness of having the publication translated into other languages. Finally, the Committee stressed the importance of capitalizing on the successes of the United Nations Online Network in Public Administration and Finance (UNPAN) by expanding its reach to the subregional level in order to strengthen the capacity of subregional institutions on public administration.

Contents

Chapter		*Page*
I.	Organization of the session	1
	A. Duration of the session	1
	B. Attendance	1
	C. Agenda	2
	D. Election of officers	2
II.	Main findings and recommendations	3
	A. Introduction	3
	B. Recommendations requiring action by the Economic and Social Council	6
	C. Recommendations brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council	6
	1. Recommendations addressed to Governments	6
	2. Recommendations addressed to the United Nations system	9
III.	Work of the Committee of Experts at its second session	12
	A. Strategies for high-quality staffing in the public sector	12
	B. Status of and trends in e-government development	14
	C. Mainstreaming poverty reduction strategies within the Millennium Development Goals: the role of public administration	15
	D. Basic data on the public sector	16
	E. Review of the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance	17
IV.	Future work of the Committee of Experts	19
Annex		
	List of documents	20

Chapter I
Organization of the session

A. Duration of the session

1. The Committee of Experts on Public Administration, which was established by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2001/45 and consists of 24 experts appointed in their personal capacity by the Council upon the nomination of the Secretary-General, held its second session at United Nations Headquarters from 7 to 11 April 2003.

B. Attendance

2. The session was attended by the following members: Jean-Marie Atangana Mebara (Cameroon), Minister of State, Secretary-General, Presidency of the Republic; Marie-Françoise Bechtel (France), Conseiller d'État, Conseil d'État; Jocelyne Bourgon (Canada), President, Canadian Centre for Management Development; Luiz Carlos Bresser-Pereira (Brazil), Getúlio Vargas Foundation; Geraldine J. Fraser-Moleketi (South Africa), Minister for Public Service and Administration; Werner Jann (Germany), Chair for Political Science, Administration and Organization, Potsdam University; Jin Liqun (China), Vice-Minister of Finance; Gonzalo D. Martner Fanta (Chile), Deputy Secretary, Ministerio Secretaría General de la Presidencia; Kuldeep Mathur (India), Academic Director, Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University; José Oscar Monteiro (Mozambique), Coordinator of Project ISAP — Instituto Superior da Administração Pública, Mozambique, Visiting Professor, University of the Witwatersrand (South Africa); Akira Nakamura (Japan), Dean of the Graduate School, Department of Political Science, Meiji University; Jaime Rodriguez-Arana Munoz (Spain), Director, Instituto Nacional de Administración Pública; Dennis A. Rondinelli (United States of America), Glaxo Distinguished International Professor of Management, Kenan-Flagler Business School, University of North Carolina; Otton Solis-Fallas (Costa Rica), Member of the Board of the Open University of Costa Rica; Patricia A. Santo Tomas (Philippines), Minister of Labour and Employment; and Volodymyr G. Yatsuba (Ukraine), State Secretary, Cabinet of Ministers. The following members could not attend: Rachid Benmokhtar Benabdellah (Morocco), President, Al Akhawayn University; Petrus Compton (Saint Lucia), Attorney-General and Minister for Justice; Giuseppe Franco Ferrari (Italy), Chair for Public Comparative Law, L. Bocconi University of Milan; Barbara Kudrycka (Poland), Rector, Bialystok School of Public Administration; Beshara Merhej (Lebanon), Member of Parliament and Minister of State; Apolo Nsibambi (Uganda), Prime Minister; Sakhir Thiam (Senegal), President, University of Dakar-Bourguiba; and Borwornsak Uwanno (Thailand), Secretary-General, King Prajadhipok Institute.

C. Agenda

3. In accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 2003/207, the agenda of the Committee for its second session was as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Enhancing the capacity of public administration to implement the United Nations Millennium Declaration.
4. Basic data on the public sector.
5. Review of United Nations activities on public administration.
6. Proposed programme of work and agenda for the next session of the Committee of Experts.

D. Election of officers

4. In view of the absence of the Chairperson, Prime Minister Apolo Nsibambi (Uganda), the Committee agreed to elect an additional Vice-Chairperson, Ms. Jocelyne Bourgon (Canada), and to elect Mr. José Oscar Monteiro (Mozambique) as Rapporteur. Thus, the Bureau of the Committee was modified as follows:

Chairperson:
Prime Minister Apolo Nsibambi (Uganda)*

Vice-Chairpersons:
Marie-Françoise Bechtel (France)
Luiz Carlos Bresser-Pereira (Brazil)
Jin Liqun (China)
Jocelyne Bourgon (Canada)

Rapporteur:
José Oscar Monteiro (Mozambique)

* Unable to attend.

Chapter II
Main findings and recommendations

A. Introduction

1. The Committee noted with satisfaction the emphasis placed by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Mr. Nitin Desai, in his introductory statement, on the importance of building national capacity, as well as national appropriation and ownership in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals.

2. In view of the challenge of achieving the Millennium Development Goals and the role of different institutions in that endeavour, the Committee pointed out that there was a growing need to reassert the importance of the State and public organizations as instruments to achieve public goals and secure the public interest — understood as fulfilment of the needs of citizens and communities, as well as the protection of individual rights, as befitted a democratic system and State.

3. Issues relating to the role of the State were brought to the fore around 15 years ago and different alternatives suggested and experimented with. Many of these have resulted in a better delimitation of the public sphere and, shedding away burdensome and unnecessary activities, have helped to refocus public concerns on essential areas. Alternative mechanisms, including partnerships, have shown that they can play an important role, but the State and public institutions are pivotal actors since they are ultimately responsible for the satisfaction of citizens' basic needs.

4. A good, efficient and accountable public administration — within an effective democratic system — is in fact essential to meeting the Millennium Development Goals, including the reduction of poverty, as well as the improvement in access to and quality of basic social services. Efficient public policies make the State and public administration more capable of developing an enabling environment for a stronger market and a better society.

5. If we are to achieve the Millennium Development Goals — which incorporate minimum living standards defined at national, regional and global levels — it is necessary to better define the requirements for good performance of public institutions. For example, in most countries, State expenditure accounts for a substantial percentage of gross domestic product (GDP). Yet, the level and attention paid to the management of such a large body of resources are not commensurate with its potentialities in improving delivery of public goods.

6. Furthermore, the Committee pointed out that the challenges in implementing the Millennium Development Goals would be in jeopardy if all actors involved were not brought on board as promoters, regulators and participants. This underscores a larger role for participation, namely through decentralization, social responsibility of all societal actors, more information and informed decisions at citizen-community levels. This applies also to the private sector, whose social responsibilities have increased. In light of the above, the Committee emphasized that good governance was also about effective collaboration between the public and the private sectors and civil society, and that each domain required its fair share of the best talent.

7. Partnerships between the State, the private sector and civil society were in fact highlighted by the Committee as crucial elements for a sound public administration.

In view of the changes brought about by globalization and of the limited resources within which States operated, the Committee proposed to examine what policies Governments needed to develop in order to deal more effectively with the private sector and civil society in the achievement of development goals. It was recognized that all actors had a key role to play in social and economic progress and that Governments needed to enhance their understanding of how to create synergies and bring about greater coordination among the undertakings of the public sector, the private sector and civil society.

8. In fact, according to the Committee, one of the most critical issues emerging from each of the major international conferences and summits on key issues of global concern — including the environment, human rights, human settlements, social development, the status of women, children and financing for development — has been the central role of governance systems and institutions in promoting economic development, increasing the access to services of the vast majority of the poor, enforcing human rights legislation, enhancing the participation of women in the development process, and protecting the quality of the environment.

9. Furthermore, the Committee underscored that States Members of the United Nations, bilateral and multilateral agencies and civil society organizations, were increasingly focusing on the need to improve the quality and effectiveness of governance and public administration. They also recognize that governance and public administration play a vital role in an integrated follow-up strategy to United Nations conferences and summits that share similar concerns, such as providing economic opportunities to the poor and improving their access to basic services, including education, health, water and sanitation. These concerns were clearly highlighted at the Millennium Summit, a landmark event leading to the adoption by the General Assembly of the United Nations Millennium Declaration (see General Assembly resolution 55/2) and the report of the Secretary-General on a road map towards the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration (A/56/326), the annex to which set out the Millennium Development Goals.

10. In discussing the challenges that Member States faced at this current juncture, the Committee concluded that revitalizing and revalidating public administration to enable the State to perform its changing role and to better serve citizens was an overarching priority for all countries. In fact, the Committee noted that weak governance was not only a problem of developing countries, but a major challenge facing developed nations as well.

11. In its discussion about what it means to revitalize public administration and strengthen institutions, the Committee agreed that it was very important not to lose sight of the instrumentality of the State. In other words, the concept of strengthening institutions has to be linked to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

12. The above consideration leads to two important challenges. First, a higher degree of commitment at the national and local levels is necessary for the successful implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. Second, the public sphere needs to develop the capacity to protect citizens against social risks and generate policies aimed at ensuring equal opportunities for citizens, particularly the more vulnerable, including children and the elderly. The Committee pointed out that, although social organizations had a role to play in providing decentralized services in areas involving basic rights, the State had the fundamental role in respect of

funding either partially or in full these activities. Enhancing the role of the State also requires increased government savings, which allow public investment and sustainable growth.

13. The Committee suggested that, in order to take into account national peculiarities in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, actions should be undertaken at the regional level, using, whenever possible, existing regional organizations. The Committee therefore urged United Nations institutions to engage in a dialogue with different countries to promote the Millennium Development Goals as part of a national governance effort towards a strong State with a culture of learning.

14. Moreover, the Committee stressed that human resources capacity was critical to the quality of public administration. Indeed, the increasing complexity of both policy-making and administrative processes, as well as the erosion of human resources capacity to carry out those core functions, is making it difficult for many Member States to implement the goals of reducing poverty and promoting sustainable human development, as emphasized in the Millennium Development Goals.

15. In this respect, the Committee highlighted two issues of main concern. One is the definition of a senior civil service cadre, competent and accountable, which should be partially renewed periodically on a merit basis. The other is the need to invest in leadership and management development, as well as staff training.

16. Furthermore, according to the Committee, countries should play a greater role in identifying their specific needs. In particular, the leadership development programme in Africa should be extensively discussed among role players. To this effect, the meeting of African Ministers of Public Administration to be held in May 2003 in Cape Town could be a good occasion to hold such a type of consultations and finalize the training programme and its modalities.

17. The Committee resolved that, besides achieving sound wage systems, inculcating a sense of pride in the public service should be one of the main endeavours of international organizations. It felt that, given its moral authority in promoting the common good, it behoved the United Nations to articulate and herald the reinvigoration and revalidation of the role of the State. Therefore, the Committee recommended that United Nations Public Service Day celebrations should become an outstanding event in order to inspire public servants and increase citizens' awareness of the important role that public servants play, at all levels of government, in achieving public goals. This event, as well as the awards for best public service, should be given more exposure and form part of a broader action at international, regional and national levels so as to have a greater impact on society and new generations. The Committee recognized that the Secretariat had started addressing this issue and encouraged its efforts.

18. The Committee expressed its concern about the need to establish bridges between generations in the public service in order to ensure the continuity of values that enhanced cohesion within societies, such as solidarity and securing equal rights.

19. The Committee pointed out that politicians and senior civil servants needed a clear understanding of their respective roles in national governance, particularly as the nature of this interface could greatly influence the degree of professionalism in the public service. Likewise, the Committee stressed that there was a set of guiding

principles that were common to both politicians and public servants. These revolve around objectives such as public interest, eradication of poverty, equity, individual rights and working ethics, including transparency, accountability and efficiency.

20. The Committee underlined that professionalism in each sphere of government (competent politicians and professional civil servants) was essential, and that the groups should be conversant with the nature of each other's problems. In order to understand the diverse factors that underlie different administrative traditions (ranging from the model of the executive-politician to that of the technical-civil servant), the Committee requested the Secretariat to undertake a study on current political/administrative profiles.

21. The Committee emphasized the potential of e-governance to make the public service more accessible and especially more accountable if applied in a comprehensive manner and after a thorough analysis of specific country readiness. Moreover, according to the Committee, e-governance must prize transparency above technology and must be seen as an instrument empowering citizens and communities.

22. In view of the above comments, the Committee suggested that one of the next issues of the *World Public Sector Report* should address issues that reflected its main concern, namely, to revitalize public administration, and invigorate governance, which lies at the heart of the public ethos and, most broadly, the realm of res publica.

B. Recommendations requiring action by the Economic and Social Council

Recommendation 1

23. The Committee recommends that strengthening public administration and the State be at the forefront of the development agenda to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Revitalizing public administration is considered such an urgent priority by so many countries and such an essential component of economic and social development that the Council may wish to devote its next high-level segment to a debate on this subject.

Recommendation 2

24. The Committee recommends that the Council establish linkages between the work of the Commission for Social Development and the remit and work of the Committee.

Recommendation 3

25. In view of the fact that revitalizing public administration is a continuous process in all countries, particularly given the need to adapt to an ever-changing environment, and owing to the fact that rapidly emerging issues need to be addressed in a timely manner, the Committee strongly recommends that it meet annually, instead of biennially, for one week. This would ensure that its input into the work of the Council and its advice to Member States were timely and up to date.

Recommendation 4

26. **The Committee also recommends that consideration of issues of governance and public administration be an integral part of the process of follow-up to conferences, and suggests that the Committee itself could serve as a valuable source of advice to the intergovernmental machinery in this respect.**

Recommendation 5

27. **The Committee recommends that the Council approve the following agenda for its next meeting to be held at United Nations Headquarters from 29 March to 2 April 2004:**

1. **Revitalizing public administration.**
2. **United Nations charter of public administration.**
3. **Public sector institutional capacity for African renewal.**
4. **Basic data on the public sector.**
5. **Review of the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance.**

28. **The Committee recommends that its Bureau and the Secretariat work together in defining further the contents of the agenda, namely item 1, taking into account the topics put forward in the debates of the Committee's second session.**

C. Recommendations brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council

1. Recommendations addressed to Governments

Recommendation 1

29. **The Committee urges Governments to establish and/or strengthen their human resources planning and management systems and units, as well as focus on leadership capacity development of future and present leaders in the public sector.**

Recommendation 2

30. **The Committee recommends that Governments professionalize their public service and establish effective incentive structures that enhance recognition of and pride in the public service.**

Recommendation 3

31. **The Committee encourages Governments to organize events to celebrate United Nations Public Service Day on 23 June of each year, at the national and local levels, to enhance the perceived image of the public sector; to show recognition for the work of public servants; and to encourage young people to pursue with pride their career in this field.**

Recommendation 4

32. **The Committee believes that Governments should create a learning organization culture in the public service and tap talent from underrepresented groups.**

Recommendation 5

33. **The Committee recommends that government leaders take up the challenge of ensuring that the powers of e-government are used to deliver more rapid and improved public services, to enhance transparency and to enable people to increase their say in policy-making decisions, so as to foster greater participation and accelerated development. It also recommends that Governments pay particular attention to ensuring privacy rights and legal protection when establishing e-government systems.**

2. **Recommendations addressed to the United Nations system**

Recommendation 1

34. **The Committee recommends that, given the high-quality work being undertaken by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat in the field of public administration and governance, the Secretariat more widely disseminate among Member States and the general public information on the activities related to the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance. In this respect, it suggests that the Secretariat prepare press releases to distribute to professional categories. Moreover, the Committee recommends that the Secretariat make use of the network utilized for the United Nations Public Service Awards to reach most sectors of society and reiterates that a statement by the Secretary-General on the occasion of United Nations Public Service Day would greatly enhance the perceived image of the public sector.**

Recommendation 2

35. **The Committee took note of the important reorganization within the Secretariat that further integrated normative and analytical work with technical assistance. It recommends that this synergy between normative work and technical assistance work carried out by the Secretariat be maintained and further enhanced.**

Recommendation 3

36. **The Committee considers the *World Public Sector Report* an extremely valuable tool for policy makers and practitioners in Member States and requests the Secretariat to continue its publication on emerging topics highlighted by the Committee. It also advises the Secretariat on the need to make the document available in more languages.**

Recommendation 4

37. **The Committee recommends that the Secretariat undertake policy analysis and research in developing human capacity in the public sector of developing countries and present the findings in the upcoming *World Public Sector Report*.**

Recommendation 5

38. **The Committee stressed the importance of capitalizing on the successes of the United Nations Online Network in Public Administration and Finance (UNPAN) by expanding its reach to the subregional level in order to strengthen the capacity of subregional institutions in public administration.**

Recommendation 6

39. **The Committee recommends that the Secretariat develop and share tools and guidelines for enhancing human resources planning and management capacities in developing countries (including regional public service charters and manuals on codes of conduct).**

Recommendation 7

40. **The Committee recommends that the Secretariat organize forums (meetings, seminars, workshops) at regional levels (Africa, the Arab world, Latin America, Asia and the Pacific, Central and Eastern Europe) and in small island States, especially for developing countries, to further explore how to strengthen the human resources capacity in the public sector and develop appropriate solutions.**

Recommendation 8

41. **The Committee recommends that the Secretariat continue to provide, upon request of Member States, technical advisory support in the areas of enhancing the quality of personnel in the public sector; reinforcing governance and public administration systems and institutions; and fostering transparency and accountability, as well as reconstructing public administration in post-conflict countries and situations of decentralized governance.**

Recommendation 9

42. **The Committee recommends that the Secretariat intensify leadership development activities, with a particular focus on Africa and developing countries in general, and emphasize capacity-building support to and partnerships with regional and national institutions to provide the necessary training.**

Recommendation 10

43. **The Committee recommends that the Secretariat undertake additional work to further analyse and delineate the role of the State as enabler and user of knowledge and technology in order to support and encourage innovation throughout public administration and society as a whole.**

Recommendation 11

44. **The Committee recommends that the Secretariat focus its future work in the area of e-government on how to fund e-government and how Governments can secure appropriate financing mechanisms towards the building of learning infrastructures.**

Recommendation 12

45. **The Committee recommends that the Secretariat focus on the impact of e-government on poverty reduction, and continue publishing the global e-government survey on an annual basis, while paying special attention to the use of e-government for deepening participation. Appropriate tools for benchmarking the use of e-government should also be developed over time and become part of the methodology applied by the survey.**

Recommendation 13

46. **The Committee recommends that the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, through its networks and advisory services, provide technical cooperation assistance for mainstreaming the Millennium Development Goals in the national policy space; provide upstream policy advice to facilitate and enhance the concept of "engaged governance"; and help introduce new tools, techniques and practices in the pursuance of the Millennium Development Goals.**

Recommendation 14

47. **The Committee recommends that the Secretariat, and in particular the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, take all necessary steps, through studies, research and advisory services, to ensure that regional efforts in support of the Millennium Development Goals are understood and facilitated.**

Recommendation 15

48. **The Committee urges the Secretariat, together with national and regional organizations, to undertake a systematic assessment of institutional capacity requirements in sub-Saharan Africa, and produce a compendium and a compilation of experiences and good practices in public administration. The latter should be undertaken also with reference to other regions of the world.**

Recommendation 16

49. **The Committee recommends that the Secretariat take all necessary steps to ensure that the Working Group on Basic Data on the Public Sector, which was set up at the Committee's present session, is established as a permanent group with the objective of guiding the Secretariat in its work on selecting a specific set of indicators on the public sector.**

Recommendation 17

50. **The Committee recommends that the Secretariat embark on a step-by-step approach of researching among the various indicators that can be used to characterize the public sector, and which may be available from other organizations, bearing in mind the following three aspects of evaluating the public sector: efficiency, transparency and participation. This exercise should be carried out in partnership with agencies and institutes currently working on this topic.**

Chapter III
Work of the Committee of Experts at its second session

A. Strategies for high-quality staffing in the public sector

1. The discussion was based on a report of the Secretariat on strategies for high-quality staffing in the public sector (E/C.16/2003/4), which emphasized that high-quality staffing in the public sector is critical to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and other intergovernmental commitments, including the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation).[1]

2. The paper also highlighted two contradictory developments that characterize public sector management in many countries: the increasing complexity of both policy-making and administrative processes, on the one hand, and the erosion of human resources capacity to carry out those core functions, on the other.

3. At its first session, held in July 2002, the Committee of Experts on Public Administration had identified six key areas for national capacity-building. Foremost among these challenges was the need for the public sector to develop a strategy to recruit and retain its fair share of the best talent.[2] The erosion in human resources capacity in the public sector in its various manifestations has been brought about by a confluence of factors, including the declining image of the public sector, the persistence of clientelistic practices, and the related decline of governing institutions in stagnating countries. The need for national policy makers to critically examine the root causes of human capital erosion in the public sector and to develop long-term strategies to reverse this trend was therefore stressed.

4. Four core competencies essential for reinforcing the public sector were identified: committed and principled leadership; informed policy analysis; professional and accountable management; and accessible and responsive service delivery. It was noted, however, that these core competencies can be built up only within a sound institutional framework and an environment of good governance. In fact, in trying to single out some of the key factors affecting the ability of the public sector to recruit and retain its share of the best talent, the Committee emphasized the critical role played by an effective institutional framework. Administrative reforms require the adoption of comprehensive strategies that involve investments in capacity-building of legal and institutional frameworks simultaneously, in terms of both systems and human capital. It was further pointed out that institutional development is not likely to take place without such comprehensive strategies.

5. High-quality staffing in the public sector therefore requires the adoption of a holistic approach and long-term human development strategies that yield varying options, based on the specific needs of particular Member States. The options can be based on a "career system", a "job system" or — as is often the case — a hybrid. Nevertheless, some important elements that States need to consider in strengthening

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[1] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and Corr.1), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 24* (E/2002/84), paras. 15 and 16.

human capital in the public sector include: establishing human resources planning management systems and units; professionalizing the public service, including human resources management; enhancing the social value of service to the public; creating a learning culture in public institutions; and utilizing the best talent from underrepresented groups. A deliberate and sustained strategy to develop strong cadres of human resources management professionals in the public sector, including effective information management, should also be pursued.

6. Another major challenge facing many countries is to build up or restore a sense of pride in public sector employment. An efficient public sector is key to economic and social development. Economic theories emphasize the crucial role that the public sector plays in the provision of public goods, as well as in dealing with externalities.

7. Those countries that value the public sector generally find it much easier to recruit and retain competent staff, and to inculcate a sense of pride in the public service. Strict adherence to competitive and merit-based recruitment systems is the best means to raise performance standards and to recruit and retain a fair share of the best talent in the public sector. It was also noted that monetary rewards play an important role in the recruitment and retention of high-calibre staff. In addition, human resources managers should adopt recruitment strategies already applied effectively in selected fields of the public service. Induction training should invariably be an important part of the recruitment process.

8. Given the rapidly changing environment in which the public sector operates, the Committee pointed out that strengthening leadership capacity should be at the centre of development efforts, and strong collaboration and partnerships should be established to support developing countries in strengthening their leadership capacity in the public sector. The centrality of the quality of leadership in the public sector as a key element for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals was further emphasized by Mr. Allan Rosenbaum, President of the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA), in a presentation made to the Committee on "Improving the quality of leadership in the public sector: new needs, new approaches and new strategies". In this regard, he mentioned the ongoing initiative sponsored by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration and its programme for leadership development.

9. In line with the above, the Committee recommended that the new leadership training programme of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs focus on capacity development both of leaders and of strategic decision makers in the public service. The Committee suggested that the programme should be designed to strengthen the role of public servants in protecting the public interest defined in consultation with citizens; in promoting a culture of openness, ethics and appropriate behaviour; in fostering dialogue in society; and in enhancing strategic management capacities.

10. The Committee also suggested that the programme train participants to better understand the interlinkages between different subsystems of the public administration system involved in realizing policy objectives, such as the Millennium Development Goals, as well as wider administrative reform processes. Training can also play a key role in organizational transformation. While political leaders could help frame the capacity-building requirements of public

administrators, training of senior officials and other strategic decision makers should be mainly undertaken by regional management development organizations.

B. Status of and trends in e-government development

11. The discussion was based on the report of the Secretariat on the status of and trends in the development of e-government (E/C.16/2003/2). The report suggested that Governments should carefully examine and seriously consider the potential benefits as well as the drawbacks of introducing e-government applications in their operations.

12. The Committee pointed out that Governments play a dual role as enablers and users of information and communication technologies (ICT) in public administration. Governments can use ICT to reorganize the way in which they operate in order to develop citizenry and educate the public about the complex issues of the State. They can also use e-governance to improve accountability at all levels through transparency. Ultimately, where and how to use ICT in government operations are a matter of political decision.

13. Mr. Fernando Moreno Peña, Governor of the State of Colima, Mexico, who made a presentation to the Committee on an e-information system for public service delivery, illustrated the potential benefits of e-government in providing greater access to public services through a concrete case. The system relies on a single key (code) for the population registry, which allows citizens to access all kinds of information through a service kiosk made available to individuals without the need for additional personnel. The system has also increased transparency in government operations and has lowered corruption. In addition, the system allows for risk management in the case of earthquakes in that State by offering support to people whose houses have been damaged.

14. In essence, the Committee agreed that the value of ICT in enhancing the capacity of government cannot be disputed. E-government has various roles, namely: (a) to inform citizens; (b) to get work done more effectively and efficiently, thereby reducing administrative costs; and (c) to enhance participation. At the same time, however, the introduction of e-government has its own set of problems, involving, inter alia, costs and infrastructure, as well as privacy and confidentiality. The Committee pointed out that weak institutions and limited skills are among the most serious factors in hampering e-government development, followed by weak technological infrastructure and low funding capacity.

15. Although the Committee concurred on the particular benefits of e-government, it stressed that the issue of costs versus benefits should be carefully considered, particularly by developing countries. The question is whether it is reasonable, especially in low-income countries, to invest a large amount of resources in systems that people use sparingly.

16. The Committee also questioned the impact of e-government on poverty reduction and economic development, and considered the issue of security, including identity theft. Moreover, it pointed out that experience in certain countries showed that government was good at communicating with citizens, but bad at communicating with other government agencies.

17. A major challenge for government leaders is to ensure both that the powers of e-government allow people to develop themselves more freely in society and that ICT can be harnessed to enhance accountability. The digital divide is a strong concern for many policy makers since developing programmes in e-government is a costly process and requires adequate expertise. The role of international organizations, according to the Committee, should be one of supporting this process.

C. Mainstreaming poverty reduction strategies within the Millennium Development Goals: the role of public administration

18. The discussion was based on the report of the Secretariat on mainstreaming poverty reduction strategies within the Millennium Development Goals: the role of public administration (E/C.16/2003/5). The report argued that one of the main challenges outlined in the Millennium Development Goals was the reduction of abject and dehumanizing poverty to which condition more than 1 billion people are currently consigned.

19. The Secretariat summarized the main requirements and concerns regarding socio-economic governance, and pointed out that strengthening the capacity of socio-economic institutions is key to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and to the active pursuit of engaged governance, which links public administration and processes to social capital. In fact, the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, particularly poverty reduction, depends crucially on the effectiveness and efficiency of institutions, especially at the national level.

20. Five central considerations related to the Millennium Development Goals were highlighted. First, it was noted that the Millennium Development Goals have universal legitimacy since they have been accepted by government leaders worldwide and are the culmination of a series of international initiatives and conferences, which, since the 1970s, have paid increasing attention to social objectives. Second, it was pointed out that the Millennium Development Goals are unique since they encompass clear human development objectives and targets that are attainable. Third, the targets, issues and imperatives related to the Millennium Development Goals were examined and discussed. Fourth, the imperatives and implications of the Millennium Development Goals were analysed. Finally, the internal realignment of institutions for better connectivity, the shift from sector-oriented planning to socially oriented goal-based planning, and a more engaging governance for fuller participation in policy processes were highlighted.

21. The Committee pointed out that one of the main challenges that many countries face is how to promote a government and civil society compact so as to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and how to enable their government to enhance the mobilization of resources from civil society.

22. The Committee recognized that at present there is a gap between goals, which are usually set internationally, and processes for their implementation, which are nationally driven. It therefore recommended that the United Nations system support national Governments in bridging the gap between the goals set at the international level and the nationally led processes to meet these goals.

23. The Committee argued that, through South-South and North-South cooperation, the United Nations system can help empower national Governments to

upgrade their public administration capacities for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, namely, in the fields of policy-making, monitoring and direct service delivery, where required.

24. The Committee strongly emphasized the key role that regional institutions, and decentralization, play in the promotion of the Millennium Development Goals. It noted that decentralization promotes not only democratic principles at the subnational level, but also poverty eradication — a key objective of the Millennium Development Goals. The Committee further urged that all necessary steps be taken, including studies, research and support, to ensure that regional initiatives in support of the Millennium Development Goals are adequately implemented. In this regard, Mr. Bernardo Kliksberg, special adviser, made a presentation to the Committee on "The Millennium Development Goals: the role of public administration in Latin America".

25. Moreover, many of the concepts discussed and points raised by the Secretariat were further elaborated and supported by Mr. Sam Rahubadda (Government of Sri Lanka), who made a presentation to the Committee on "National development policy frameworks and the Millennium Goals in the context of Sri Lanka". Challenges in technical assistance activities in the field of socio-economic governance were highlighted by Ms. Mary Hilderbrand, Harvard University, who made a presentation to the Committee on "Capacity assessment in developing countries: lessons of experience".

D. Basic data on the public sector

26. The discussion was based on the report of the Secretariat on basic data on the public sector (E/C.16/2003/3), which proposed expanding the original list of five input indicators on the size and functions of the public sector in the world to include an output indicator of overall efficiency and accountability of public sector financial management. The Committee was invited to select additional indicators from three categories outlined in that report. The Secretariat suggested adopting such an expanded set of indicators as a basis for the evolution of current basic data on the public sector into the global public sector monitor.

27. The Committee concurred that the present high demand for indicators by international policy makers posed two types of challenge. The first challenge is to focus on a short list of indicators that may be widely used by the political bodies of the United Nations and the media. The specificity of public sector performance indicators remains important for detailed performance monitoring in various policy areas. The second challenge is to build the capacity for estimating those indicators at a satisfactory level of quality.

28. There was wide recognition that the process of evaluating the public sector is a complex exercise, given that the public sector is no longer homogeneous. It is also difficult to draw conclusions from input data with respect to output, and then with respect to outcome. For example, crime depends on many social factors. Therefore, the Secretariat suggested that it might not be wise to focus on outcome indicators. The task of comparative performance is fraught with difficulties. As an example, one country (Japan) had tried to study the size of government and came up with a statistic that showed it had the smallest ratio of public employees to population among the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

countries. On closer examination, however, the statistic turned out to be misleading since it did not include part-timers or take into account solutions adopted by civil society that offered a substitute for a portion of the services traditionally provided by the State.

29. It was also felt that the creation by the government of an enabling environment conducive to economic activity and social development was an important element in the evaluation exercise. The Committee underscored that, in order to determine public sector efficiency, it was important to have data on the unitary costs of various services provided by public administrations, for example, electricity, education of first-grade students and supplying water to a family. In addition, it recommended that data on the participation of society in deliberative structures should be more carefully examined.

30. Furthermore, the Committee suggested that the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat analyse data concerning resources allocated at the regional and local levels. Evaluating the public sector is a very difficult task because it is not easy to assess effects when there are long lags between input and output. There are nevertheless useful indicators that can be extracted from the databases of other organizations, which may then be organized and interpreted in a meaningful manner.

E. Review of the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance

31. The Secretariat made a presentation on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance, which touched upon developments since the last session of the Committee of Experts. It summarized the work of the Secretariat in the area of public administration and governance, and highlighted proposed new activities. It also drew attention to the recent reforms of the Secretary-General, which had further enhanced the capacity of the Secretariat to support policy deliberations in the area of public administration, particularly with respect to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals.

32. The Committee strongly commended the presentation made by the Secretariat for providing a very clear and comprehensive framework for the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance, and expressed its deep appreciation for the work and progress that had been achieved in the past year and for the coherence of the proposed future activities. It also commended the Secretariat for its high-quality work in preparing the background documents used in the course of the session, which are listed in the annex.

33. The Committee felt that, although the United Nations was carrying out a number of significant initiatives in the field of public administration and governance, these had not been sufficiently publicized throughout the world. It was therefore recommended that the United Nations enhance the dissemination of information concerning the activities related to the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance, including United Nations Public Service Day, by engaging in a more effective public information campaign.

34. The Committee recognized the importance of a continued focus on cross-sectoral approaches and recommended that the coordination of the work of thematic

areas of the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance be enhanced in order to foster greater coordination, linkages and synergies.

35. The Committee was convinced that e-government might be a very important tool for enhancing the effectiveness of government operations and public service delivery. He noted, however, that careful needs assessment should be undertaken before introducing e-government reforms. In this respect, it was suggested that the Secretariat could provide assistance to Governments, upon their request, in formulating effective strategies to implement e-government policies and to improve their public management systems. It was also proposed that the work of the Secretariat on e-government should reflect the issues and challenges that had emerged during the discussions of the session.

36. The Committee expressed appreciation for the continuing focus of the Secretariat on financial issues since resource mobilization and management were key to undertaking any reform in public administration. It also proposed that focusing on the financial aspects of public administration and on the impact of financial institutions on social and economic progress be continued.

37. It was recognized that information-sharing and exchange of experiences in public administration were extremely important in enhancing Governments' knowledge of successful practices and were key in providing options to Governments that were undertaking public administration reforms. It was strongly recommended that the Secretariat continue working in this area and produce more repertories and compendiums of best practices in public administration. In particular, the Committee suggested creating an inventory of administrative reform experiences that had taken place in different countries at the State, regional and local levels in order to assess their effectiveness.

38. The Committee praised the United Nations Online Network in Public Administration and Finance (UNPAN) for its excellent contribution to fostering the exchange of information and best practices, and as a provider of capacity-building for developing countries.

39. Overall the Committee took note with appreciation of the invaluable role of the Secretariat, specifically of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, in promoting the main principles and values endorsed by the Economic and Social Council; in devising and implementing programmes that would contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; and in supporting through its activities the overall objectives of the international community. It also commended the Secretariat for its support to the work of the Committee. The Committee felt that providing advice and acting as a sounding board for the Department of Economic and Social Affairs — a function the Committee would strive to carry out to the best of its ability — offered an important opportunity for interface between the role of the Committee and that of the Secretariat.

Chapter IV
Future work of the Committee of Experts

1. As a follow-up to the discussions held at its first session, the Committee decided to further address the issue of its mandate and the relevance of its contribution to the United Nations system, in particular to the Economic and Social Council, to which it was mandated to provide advice. In this connection, it had greatly benefited from the discussion held by its Bureau with the Bureau of the Council.

2. The Committee identified its role as threefold: first, to identify emerging issues in the area of public administration and their policy implications for Member States, as well as make recommendations on principles and values concerning the role of public administration in the development process, which could contribute to policy decisions taken by the Economic and Social Council; second, to provide policy guidance and operational recommendations to Member States on how to address key issues relating to the functioning of the State, particularly in its effort to implement the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the commitments made at United Nations global conferences; and third, to provide guidance to the United Nations system in its work in the area of public administration by reviewing programmes and suggesting specific directions for its activities.

3. Given that revitalizing and revalidating public administration to enable the State to perform its changing role was an overarching priority, the Committee recommended that this theme be the focus of its discussion at its next meetings.

4. In line with the United Nations Millennium Declaration and in order to promote public sector institutional capacity for African renewal, the Committee decided to give special attention to Africa's needs by including this topic in the agenda of its next session. It also noted the progress made in public administration capacity-building, as foreseen by the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) (A/57/304, annex), particularly in the fields of comparative data, e-government, donor support for capacity-building, and governance indicators applicable to Africa, all bearing on the African peer review mechanism.

5. The Committee further stated that different cultures, priorities and stages of development made it impossible to adopt homogeneous solutions. Yet, it considered it necessary to identify commonalities by studying the various existing organizational traditions and by becoming attuned to the needs of people from different parts of the world, so as to strengthen a renewed spirit of multilateralism.

6. The Committee decided to address the issue of the values of public service by identifying and translating them into a set of major principles or charter, where the guiding principles enabling the State to promote democracy and economic development, as well as the role of all parties involved in the pursuit of the public interest, would be defined. Such a charter would be inspired by discussions or work taking place in some regions of the world and by the documents adopted in those regions, such as the Charter for the Public Service in Africa. At the same time, however, the Charter should constitute a statement valid for all countries and should be submitted to the Economic and Social Council for approval.

7. This initiative would be part of a concerted effort to enhance the role of public service and to respond to the growing demand for the restoration of the role of the public interest as a centrepiece for balanced and sustained development, which is essential to achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

Annex

List of documents

Document symbol	*Agenda item*	*Title or description*
E/C.16/2003/1	2	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
E/C.16/2003/2	3	Report of the Secretariat on the status of and trends in the development of e-government
E/C.16/2003/3	4	Report of the Secretariat on basic data on the public sector
E/C.16/2003/4	3	Report of the Secretariat on the strategies for high-quality staffing in the public sector
E/C.16/2003/5	3	Report of the Secretariat on mainstreaming poverty reduction strategies within the Millennium Development Goals: the role of public administration

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